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CODE: BLUE

DOUBLE FEATURE

THUNDERSTRIKE™

UP FROM BELOW!

DIRECT EDITION

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CODE BLUE

IF THOR® CAN'T STOP ME, WHAT CAN YOU CLOWNS DO?

POLICE

pollard

THUNDERSTRIKE

WRECKED!

WHEN ARCHITECT ERIC MASTERSON STAMPS HIS WOODEN WALKING STICK UPON THE GROUND, IT IS TRANSFORMED INTO A MYSTICAL WEAPON CALLED THUNDERSTRIKE! ARMED WITH INCREDIBLE POWERS, MASTERSON WORKS TO PROVE THAT ONE MAN MUST MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BECAUSE THIS WORLD STILL NEEDS HEROES! STAN LEE PRESENTS ...

THUNDERSTRIKE!

TOM DEFALCO and RON FRENZ SCRIPT, PLOT & PICTURES • AL MILGROM FINISHED ART • JANICE CHIANG LETTERING • MIKE ROCKWITZ COLORING • RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR

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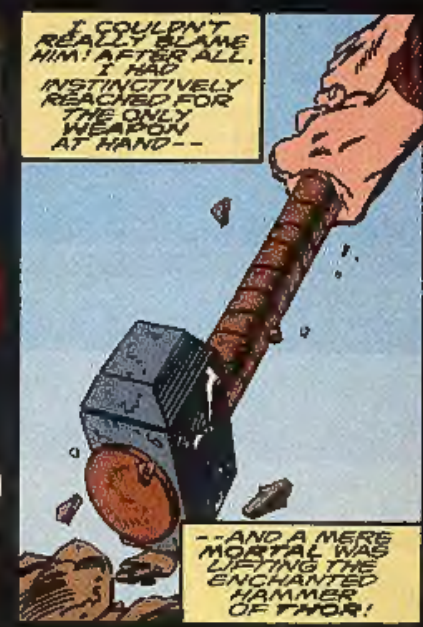
AND THE FACT WASN'T LOST ON MONGOOSE!
PITIFUL FOOL! I SHOULD EAT YOU FOR THAT USELESS GESTURE!
BE SILENT, MASTERSON, BEFORE I... no!
No!
THE SNEER IN HIS VOICE SUDDENLY TURNED TO AWE!


I COULDN'T REALLY BLAME HIM! AFTER ALL, I HAD INSTINCTIVELY REACHED FOR THE ONLY WEAPON AT HAND--
--AND A MERE MORTAL WAS LIFTING THE ENCHANTED HAMMER OF THOR!

AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE!
I LATER LEARNED THAT MJOLNIR WAS ACTUALLY RESPONDING TO A SILENT SUMMONS FROM ITS MASTER!

BUT, I WAS TOTALLY PUMPED AT THE TIME!
I WAS CONVINCED THAT I WAS BOTH INVINCIBLE--
--AND UNSTOPPABLE!

YEAH, RIGHT!
SO MUCH FOR YOUR FUTILE MOMENT OF GLORY!

A BLAST DESIGNED TO KILL THOR... CAN CERTAINLY DISPOSE OF YOU!
HE WAS RIGHT! I COULD FEEL MY LIFE RAPIDLY LEAKING AWAY...

DYING WAS BAD ENOUGH...BUT HIS GLOATING LAUGHTER WAS EVEN WORSE!
HA! HA! HA! HA! ha!
ha! HA! HA! HA!
HA!
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU HAVE SEEN A GHOST, MY FRIEND!
I SUPPOSE THAT IS ONLY APPROPRIATE BECAUSE YOU WILL SOON BE ONE!

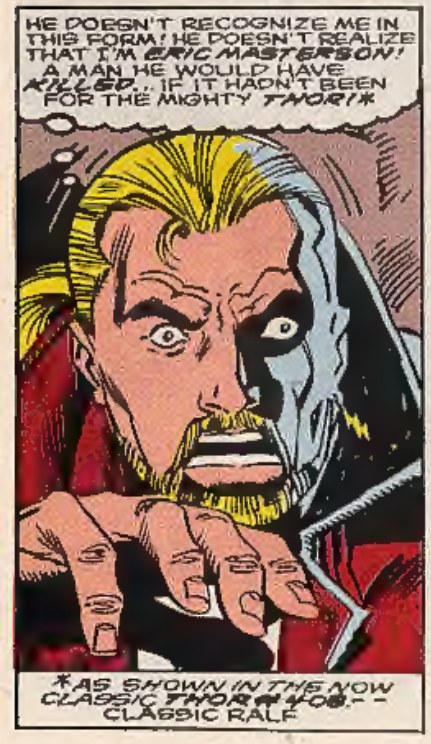
STRANGE! THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR SCENT WHICH IS HAUNTINGLY FAMILIAR! TELL ME BEFORE YOU DIE...DO I KNOW YOU?

G-GOT TO CLEAR MY HEAD! I MUST HAVE MOMENTARILY LOST CONSCIOUSNESS!

LUKE CAGE AND I ARE STILL TRAPPED IN A SUB-BASEMENT IN SHIELD'S OLD MANHATTAN HEADQUARTERS!

SEEING MONGOOSE AGAIN MUST HAVE TRIGGERED THAT AWFUL MEMORY!

UP FROM BELOW!



I SEE THAT YOU ARE A MAN WHO TAKES HIS RESPONSIBILITIES SERIOUSLY! SO DO I! AND, IN THAT VEIN, I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT--

--YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST!

MONGOOSE! LOOK OUT!

IT'S THAT CRUMMY SHIELD AGENT AND HE'S WEARING SOME KIND OF BATTLE ARM--

SPWAK!

SPWAK!

DePAUL MAY BE AN ANNOYING CREEP... BUT I CAN'T FAULT HIS TIMING!

WELL DONE, CAGE!

I LIKE A MAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO SEIZE THE MOMENT!

MAYBE YOU'LL BE WORTH KILLING AFTER ALL!

THIS IS NO CONTEST, QUICKSAND! THERE WILL BE NO PRIZES FOR SECOND BEST!

TAKE HIM OUT--AND BE QUICK ABOUT IT!

OH, NO! MONGOOSE IS TURNING TOWARD ME--!

THIS...THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING! I'M NOT READY TO FACE HIM! NOT YET! NOT NOW!

MEANWHILE, LESS THAN A DOZEN SUB-LEVELS AWAY...

AGENT #22! WE'VE LOST RADIO CONTACT WITH SPECIAL AGENT DEPAUL!

THAT'S HIS PROBLEM! WE CAN'T SPARE THE MEN FOR A RETRIEVAL TEAM!

OUR ORDERS ARE TO PROCEED WITH PROJECT SINKHOLE!

WE'VE FALLEN A LITTLE BEHIND SCHEDULE... BUT THE CYLINDER WILL SOON BE SEALED IN THE CONTAINMENT VESSEL!

IT'S DONE!

EXCELLENT! SWING THE VESSEL INTO THE ELEVATOR SHAFT... AND HOOK IT TO THE UNDERGROUND TRACK!

AND...BE CAREFUL!

DANGER IS MY BUSINESS!

I WONDER IF THAT AGENT WOULD BE SO COCKY IF HE KNEW THAT CYLINDER CONTAINS INFERNO #2... THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE ELEMENT OF ALL TIME!

ONE WRONG MOVE COULD DEVASTATE THIS ENTIRE CITY!

ELSEWHERE WITHIN THE VAST UNDERGROUND COMPLEX, SHAMARI ASBERY CONTINUES HER SEARCH FOR A MAN SHE ONCE KNEW AS BILLY RITSON...

I OUGHT TO HAVE MY HEAD EXAMINED!

NO MAN IS WORTH THIS MUCH GRIEF!

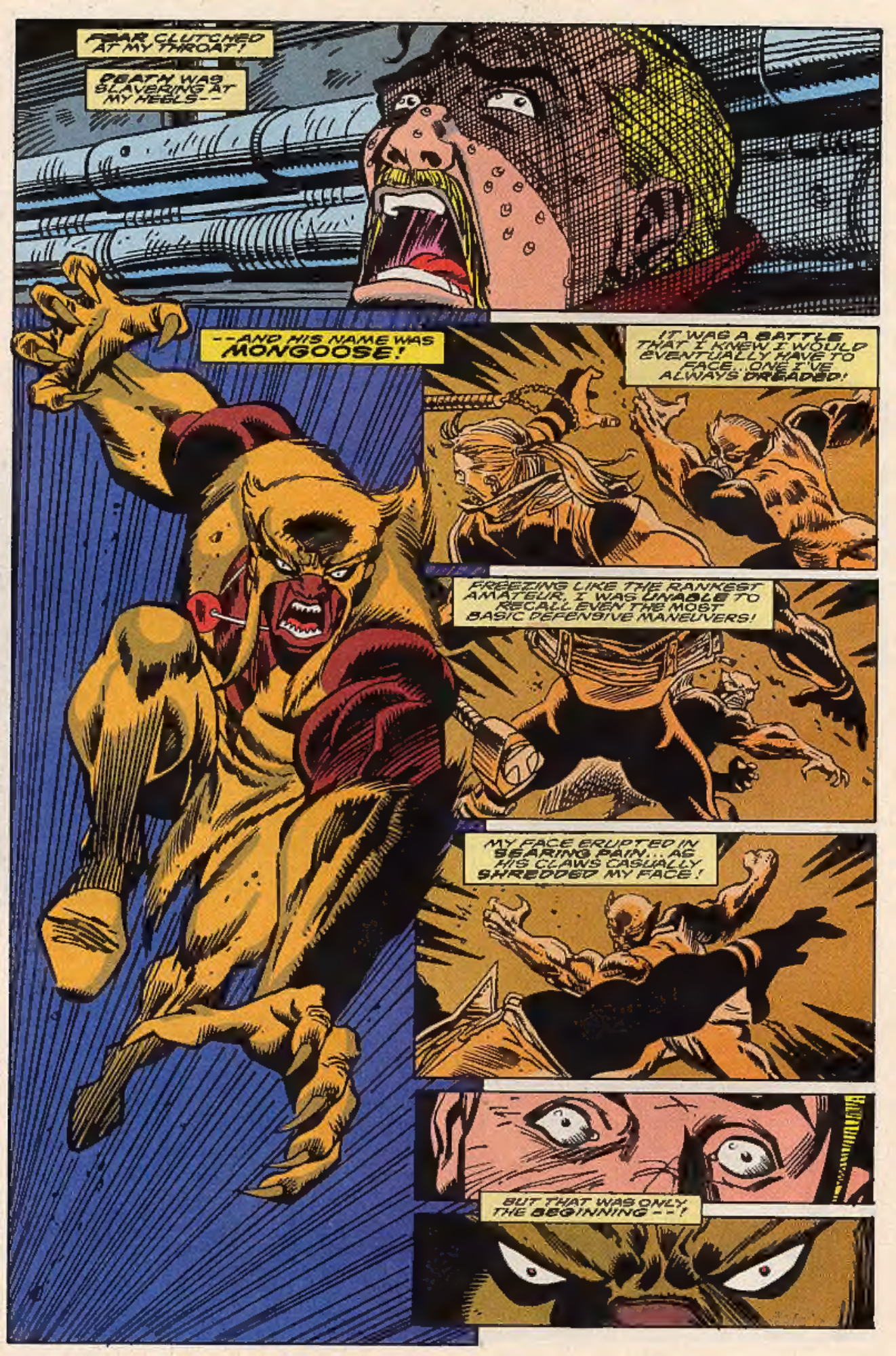
NO MAN EXCEPT BILLY!

I KNOW I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME DOWN HERE... BUT I'M CONVINCED LUCAS AND THAT AVENGER GUY WILL LEAD ME RIGHT TO HIM!

THE WALLS ARE SUDDENLY BEGINNING TO SHAKE--

--AND IT SOUNDS LIKE FIGHTING IN THAT TUNNEL AHEAD!

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY HE RAN OUT ON ME, BUT I HAVE TO SEE HIM ONE LAST TIME AND--OH!


FEAR CLUTCHED AT MY THROAT!
DEATH WAS SLAVERING AT MY HEELS--
--AND HIS NAME WAS MONGOOSE!
IT WAS A BATTLE THAT I KNEW I WOULD EVENTUALLY HAVE TO FACE...ONE I'VE ALWAYS DREADED!
FREEZING LIKE THE RANKEST AMATEUR, I WAS UNABLE TO RECALL EVEN THE MOST BASIC DEFENSIVE MANEUVERS!
MY FACE ERUPTED IN SEARING PAIN... AS HIS CLAWS CASUALLY SHREDDED MY FACE!
BUT THAT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING--!

SZAKK!
BISON! THAT BLAST IS ONLY A MILD EXAMPLE OF THE POWER I WIELD IN THIS MANDROID ARMOR!
ARRHH!
TELL ME WHO YOU'RE WORKING FOR... AND HOW YOU LEARNED ABOUT THE INFERNO #2!
HURRY! I HAVE LITTLE PATIENCE AND EVEN LESS MERCY!

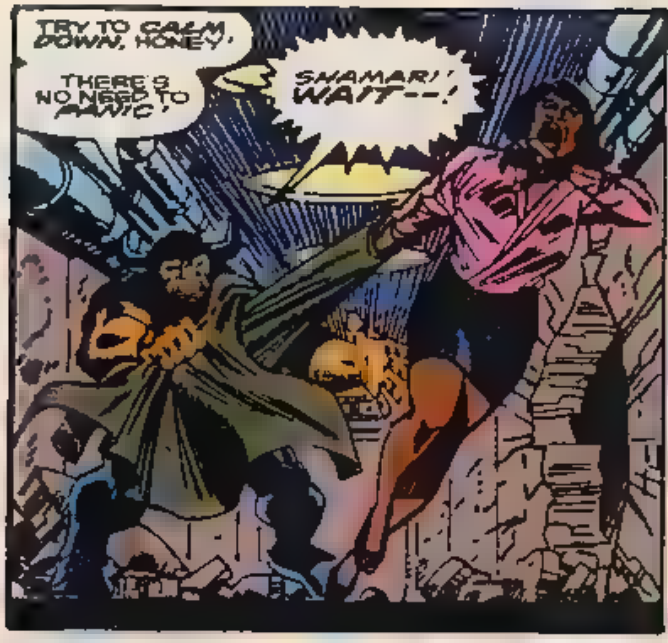
OH, MAN! THAT JERK IN THE METAL SUIT DOESN'T SOUND TOO MUCH LIKE A WALKING CLICHÉ!
SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT I'M REALLY GOING TO ENJOY POUNDING ON HIM AFTER I'VE FINISHED WITH YOU!
GO FOR IT! DePAUL HAS THAT EFFECT ON A LOT OF PEOPLE!
WHY DID BILLY EVER GET INVOLVED WITH THESE PSYCHOS-- AND WHO TRANSFORMED HIM INTO THAT BISON CREATURE?!

UGNN!
PWAMM!
CARELESS, CAGE! YOU GOT A LITTLE TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT... AND THIS LADY LIKES HER SPACE!

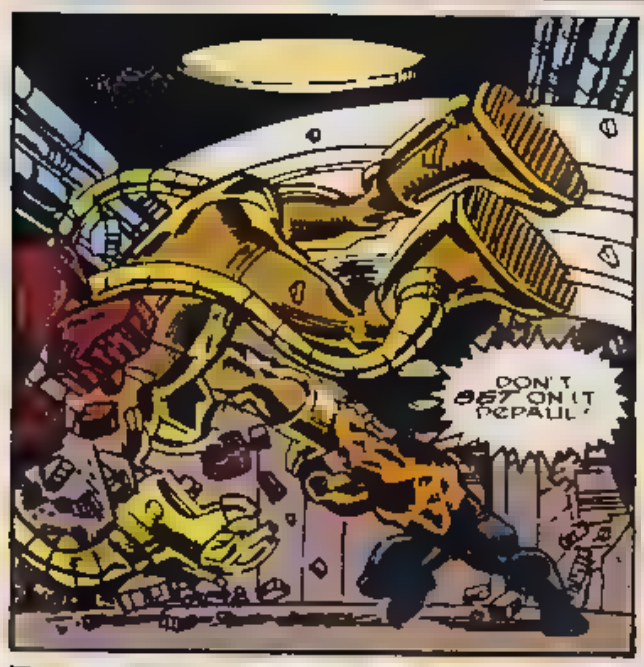
KWANG!
GET OUT OF MY FACE, DePAUL! I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU!
I WAS HIRED TO STEAL A SPECIAL CYLINDER... BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S IN IT!
YOU'RE A LIAR, BISON! ONLY A WASHINGTON BUREAUCRAT COULD BE THAT GULLIBLE!

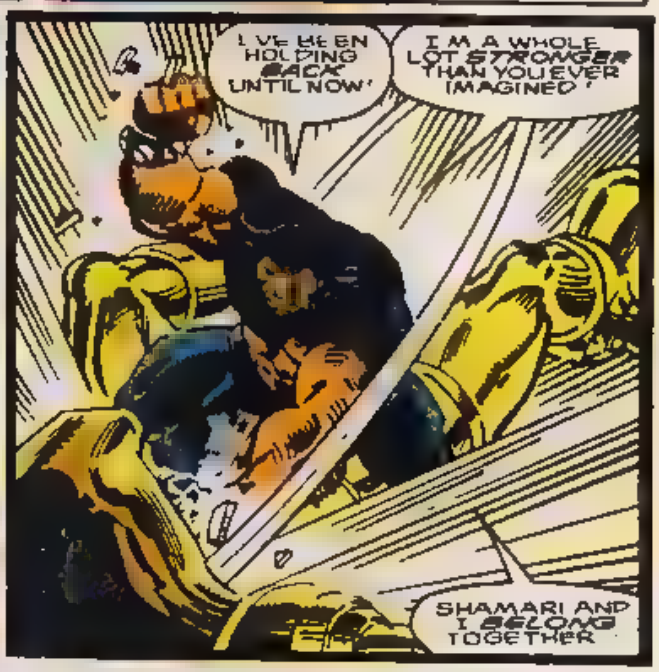
THESE IDIOTS IN THE CAPITAL WANT ME TO DESTROY OUR ONLY SUPPLY OF INFERNO 42!
PWOOM!
THEY THINK WE'RE SAFE NOW THAT THE COLD WAR IS OVER!
THE FOOLS!
ETERNAL VIGILANCE IS THE PRICE OF FREEDOM!
I HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO DEFEND THIS NATION... AND I WILL MAKE ANY SACRIFICE I DEEM NECESSARY!
DEPAUL, NO--!
DON'T!!
CAGE, YOU, FOOL--!
YOU HAVE NO IDEA OF WHAT'S AT STAKE!
THESE PEOPLE ARE OBVIOUSLY WORKING FOR A FORCE THAT IS A THREAT TO OUR ENTIRE WAY OF LIFE!
THAT STILL DOESN'T GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO PLAY JUDGE, JURY AND EXECUTIONER!
YOU'VE BEEN BURIED IN YOUR LITTLE SPY GAMES SO LONG... THAT YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THE VERY PRINCIPLES YOU'RE TRYING TO DEFEND!
THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE A FIGHT, GENTLEMEN... NOT A POLITICAL DEBATE!
ALTHOUGH, I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT I FIND IT HILARIOUS TO SEE YOU BICKERING AMONG YOURSELVES!
AFTER ALL I'VE DONE... I LIKE STILL RISKED HIS LIFE FOR ME!
HEADS UP! THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF FIGHT IN THESE TWO--

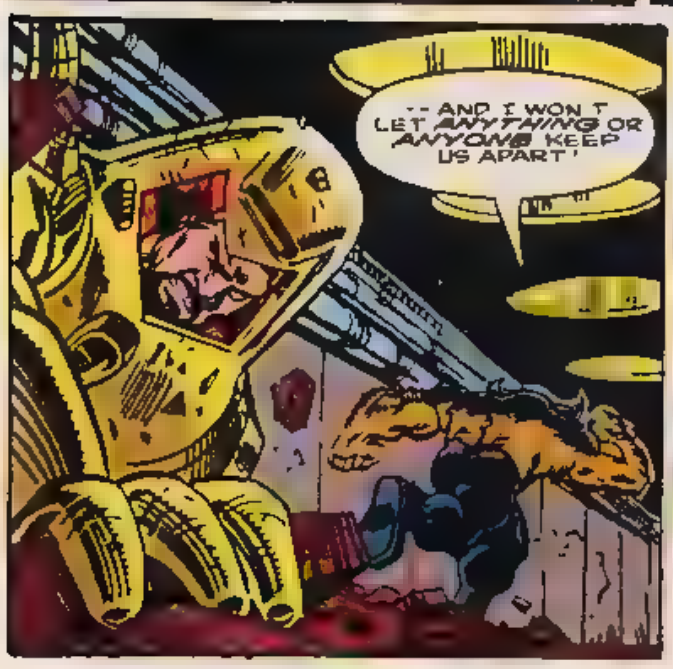
--BUT I CAN FIX THAT!
yerkk
DON'T DO IT, QUICKSAND! PLEASE DON'T KILL HIM!
BAD MOVE, BISON! YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN PAYING ATTENTION TO ME... NOT CAGE!
K-T-WAAM!
PWA TWOOM!
HOLY GOSH--! SOMETHING'S BURSTING THROUGH THE WALL!
IT'S SOME KIND OF MONSTER!
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT IT THAT ALMOST LOOKS
OH, MY GOD! NO!
NO!
SHAMARI

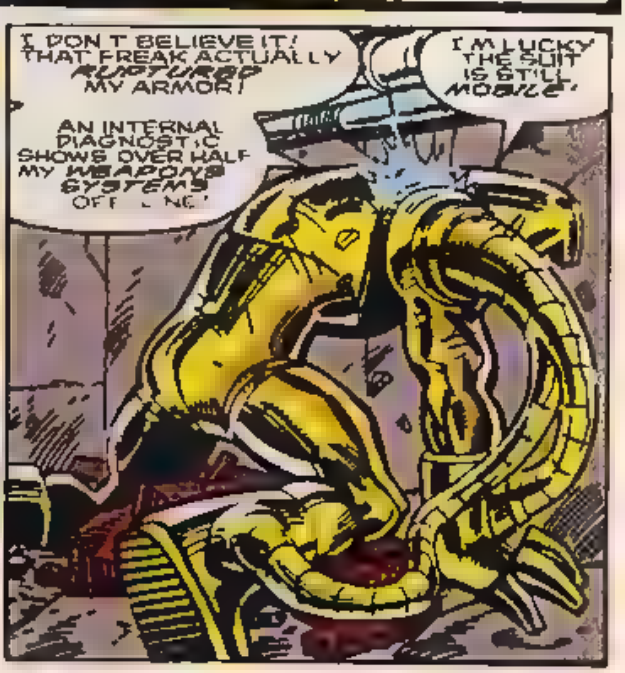

TRY TO CALM DOWN, HONEY!
THERE'S NO NEED TO PANIC!
SHAMAR!! WAIT--!

PLEASE, HONEY-- GIVE ME A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN!
I DON'T KNOW WHO THE WOMAN IS OR WHERE SHE CAME FROM, BIGON BUT SHE'S THE LEAST OF YOUR PROBLEMS NOW!
YOU'LL NEVER BREAK FREE OF THIS ARMORED GRIP!


DON'T BET ON IT DEPAUL!


I'VE BEEN HOLDING BACK UNTIL NOW!
I'M A WHOLE LOT STRONGER THAN YOU EVER IMAGINED!
SHAMARI AND I BELONG TOGETHER!


-- AND I WON'T LET ANYTHING OR ANYONE KEEP US APART!


I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THAT FREAK ACTUALLY RUPTURED MY ARMOR!
I'M LUCKY THE SUIT IS STILL MOBILE!
AN INTERNAL DIAGNOSTIC SHOWS OVER HALF MY WEAPONS SYSTEMS OFF-LINE!

I AM COMPLETELY BAFFLED!

HOW DID A SNIVELING COWARD LIKE YOU EVER JOIN THE AVENGERS?!

GOOD QUESTION!

ALTHOUGH IT'S PROBABLY A MOOT POINT I REALIZE

AS I HEAR [illegible]

TO THE DARKEST DEPTHS OF MY [illegible]

FAR FROM THE RAKING CLAWS

ONE [illegible]

AN [illegible]

IT'S [illegible] FUNNY WHEN I THINK ABOUT

COMPARED TO SOME OF THE HEAVY HITTERS I'VE BATTLED, PEOPLE LIKE BLOODAXE, THE JUGGERNAUT AND EVEN PANDARA, MONGOOSE IS A DOWNRIGHT WIMP!

AND YET, THIS IS THE FACE THAT HAUNTS MY DREAMS

[illegible] THE EYES I SEE IN EVERY NIGHTMARE

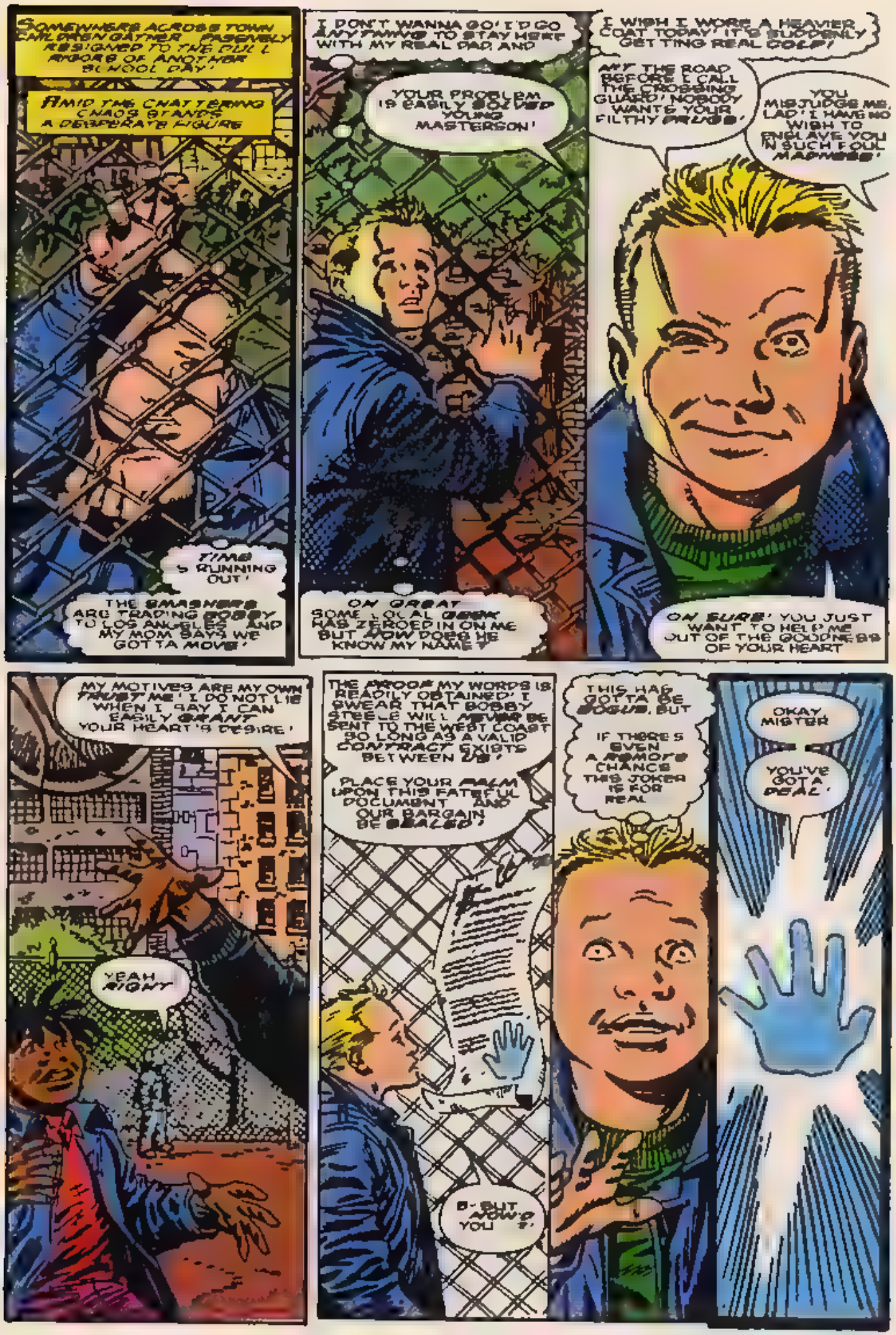
[illegible] EYES

I [illegible] WHY I PANICKED WHEN I FIRST SAW HIM

EVER SINCE HE LEFT ME FOR DEAD I'VE BEEN FEARING THE DAY THAT HE'LL RETURN TO FINISH [illegible]

I'M [illegible] TO BE A REGULAR JOYCE BROTHERS IN MY [illegible]

[illegible] RIGHT ABOUT NOW I'D RATHER BE ACROSS BETWEEN WOLVERINE AND THE PUNISHER!


SOMEWHERE ACROSS TOWN CHILDREN GATHER PASSIVELY RESIGNED TO THE DULL ROUTINE OF ANOTHER SCHOOL DAY!
AMID THE CHATTERING CHAOS STANDS A DESPERATE FIGURE
TIME'S RUNNING OUT!
THE SMASHERS ARE TRADING BOBBY TO LOS ANGELES AND MY MOM SAYS WE GOTTA MOVE!
I DON'T WANNA GO! I'D GO ANYTHING TO STAY HERE WITH MY REAL DAD, AND
YOUR PROBLEM IS EASILY SOLVED YOUNG MASTERSON!
OH GREAT SOME LOCAL GEEK HAS ZEROED IN ON ME BUT HOW DOES HE KNOW MY NAME?
I WISH I WORE A HEAVIER COAT TODAY! IT'S SUDDENLY GETTING REAL COLD!
MY THE ROAD BEFORE I CALL THE CROSSING GUARD! NOBODY WANTS YOUR FILTHY FILTH!
YOU MISJUDGE ME, LAD! I HAVE NO WISH TO ENSLAVE YOU IN SUCH FOUL MADNESS!
OH SURE! YOU JUST WANT TO HELP ME OUT OF THE GOODNESS OF YOUR HEART
MY MOTIVES ARE MY OWN TRUST ME! I DO NOT LIE WHEN I SAY I CAN EASILY GRANT YOUR HEART'S DESIRE!
YEAH RIGHT
THE PROOF MY WORDS IS READILY OBTAINED! I SWEAR THAT BOBBY STEELE WILL NEVER BE SENT TO THE WEST COAST SO LONG AS A VALID CONTRACT EXISTS BETWEEN US!
PLACE YOUR PALM UPON THIS FATEFUL DOCUMENT AND OUR BARGAIN BE SEALED!
B-BUT HOW'D YOU ?
THIS HAD GOTTA BE BOGUS, BUT
IF THERE'S EVEN A MEMO'S CHANCE THIS JOKER IS FOR REAL
OKAY MISTER
YOU'VE GOT A DEAL!

THE ANTICIPATION OF DEATH ALWAYS SEEMS A LOT WORSE THAN THE REALITY

IN MY MIND'S EYE I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME I DIED

I WAS STILL COWERING FROM THE AFTERSHOCK

STILL TRYING TO FIND SHELTER FROM MONGOOSE

AND THOSE TERRIBLE EYES!

THAT'S WHEN THOR SOMEHOW REACHED OUT TO ME... AND BROUGHT ME BACK FROM THE EDGE

TOO BAD HE ISN'T HERE NOW

HERE'S NO ONE!

NO ONE EXCEPT ME!

IT WOULD BE SO EASY TO STAY HERE... SO PLEASANT TO GENTLY DRIFT AWAY

BUT... I... I CAN'T!

I CAN'T GIVE UP!

I'M NOT READY TO DIE!

I'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY TO DIG MY WAY BACK TO CONSCIOUSNESS!

TO SHAKE OFF MY MENTAL PARALYSIS!

I OWE IT TO MY SON, MY FRIENDS... AND EVERYONE WHO STILL RELIES ON ME!

MOST OF ALL I OWE IT TO MYSELF!

FOCUSING ALL OF MY REMAINING ENERGY, I BEGIN TO CONCENTRATE

...DEFIANT COURAGE AND VALIANT NOBILITY AGAINST OVERPOWERING ODDS!

FORCING MYSELF TO CONJURE AN IMAGE OF ETERNAL HOPE IN THE FACE OF OVERWHELMING ODDS!

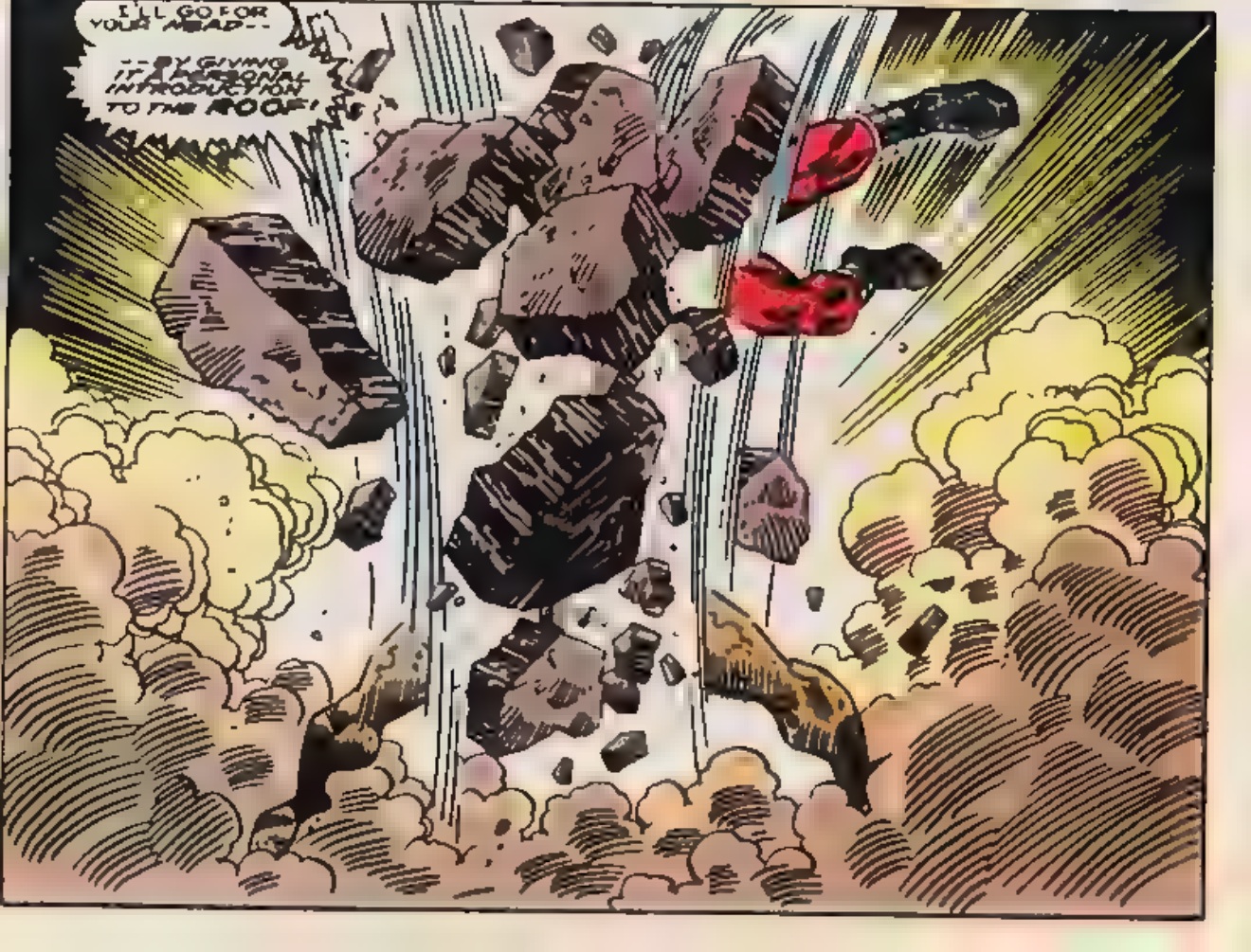
I NEEDED A SYMBOL I COULD BELIEVE IN

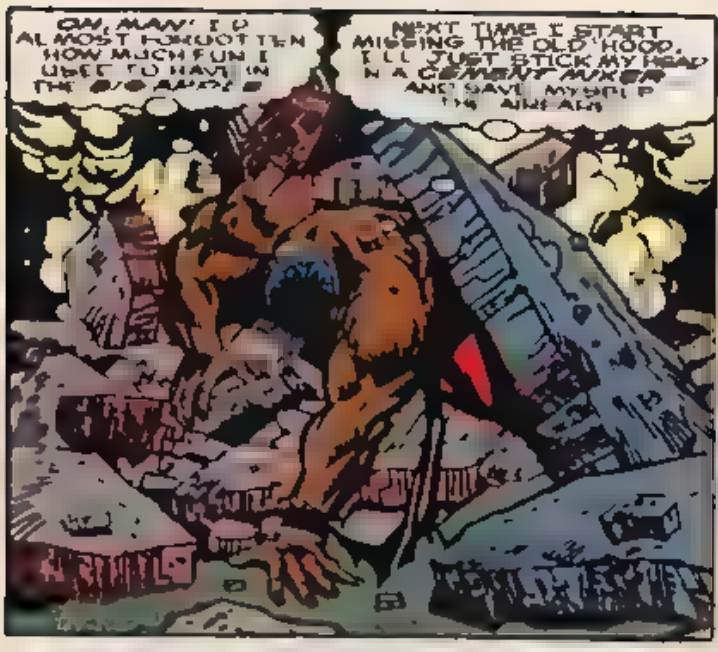
...SOMETHING OR SOMEONE TO SHOW ME THE WAY BACK!

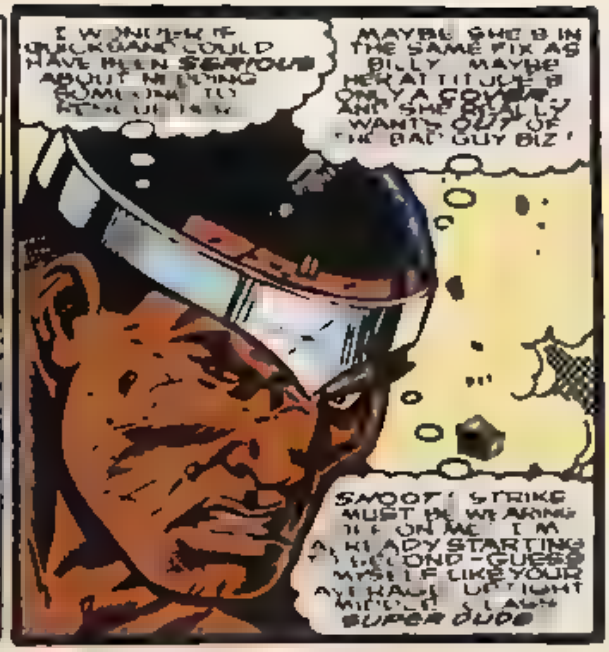
SO I STICK WITH A CLASSIC!

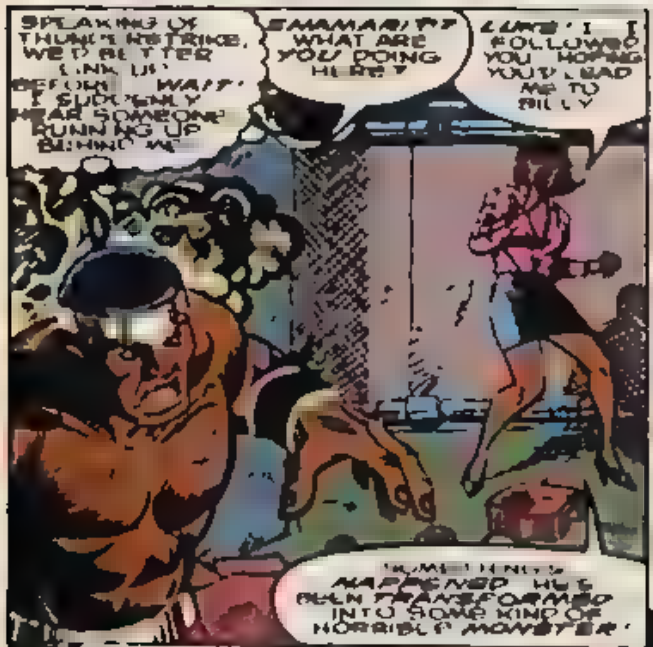
MEANWHILE.
QUICKSAND! THERE'S NO NEED FOR US TO FIGHT
I DON'T CARE ABOUT BEAULIU OR HIS SUPER-WEAPON!
I JUST WANNA HELP BILLY!
YOU'RE BREAKING MY HEART, CAGE!
TOO BAD BROW DOESN'T RATE REAL HIGH AMONG MY PERSONAL PRIORITIES!
IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED HE ISN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO'S A BIT HUMAN-IMPAIRED AND NO ONE'S COMING TO MY RESCUE!

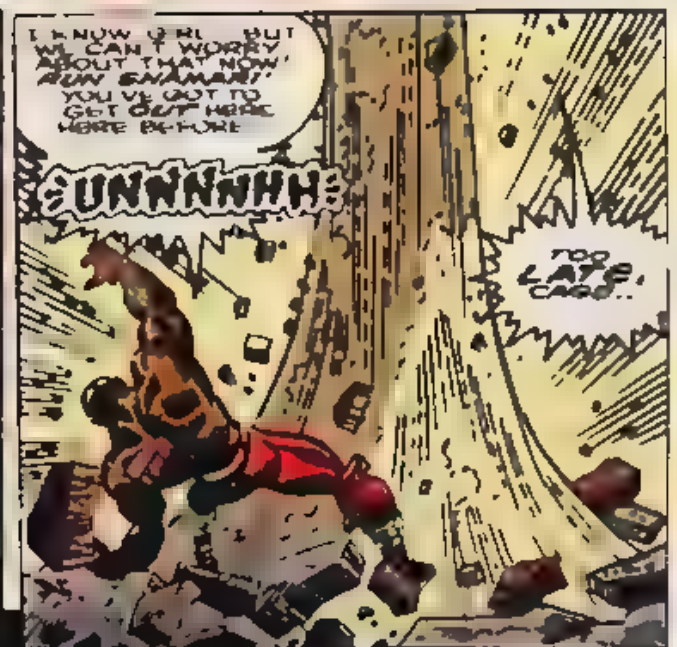
SORRY! I NEVER REALIZED THERE WAS A SENSITIVE, CARING WOMAN HIDDEN INSIDE YOUR SADISTIC, SAMPY EXTERIOR!
UGHH! HER HAND'S SLOWLY CRUSHING THE LIFE OUT OF ME, LIKE A GIANT CONCRETE WEB!
I CAN'T BUST HER GUM! BUT...
I'M AFRAID TO YOUR HEART WON'T WORK...

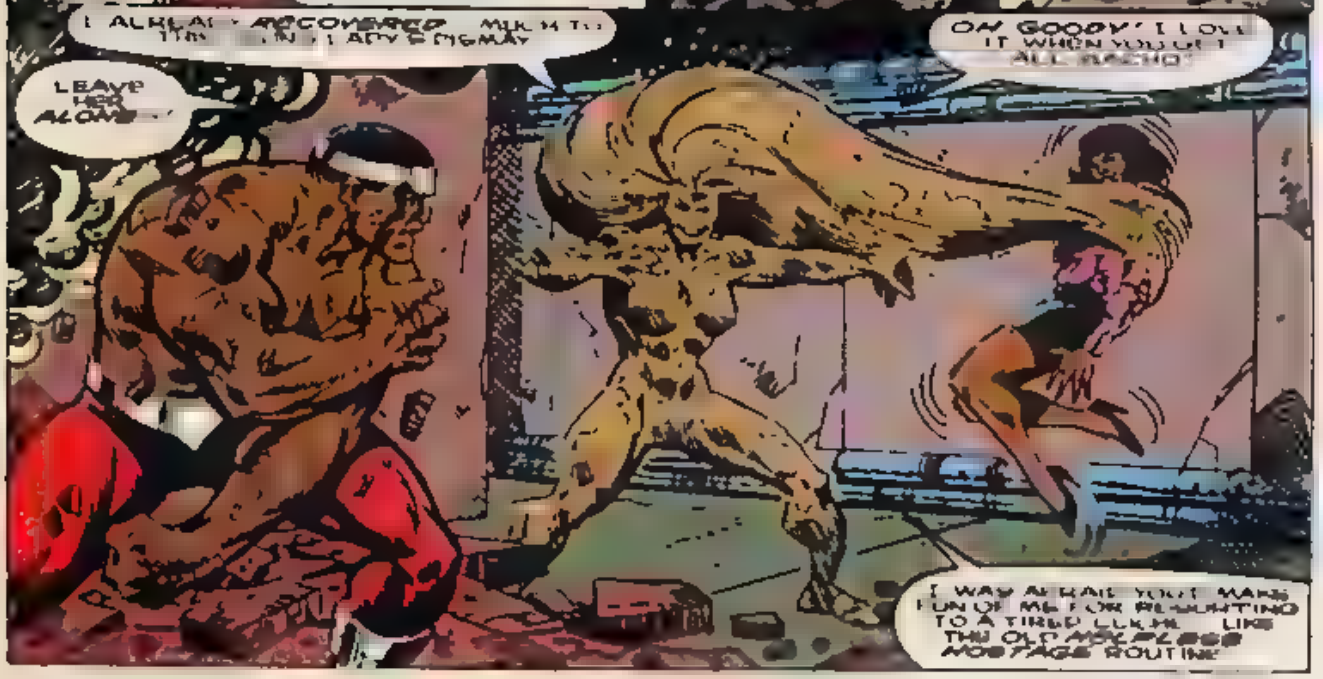

I'LL GO FOR YOUR HEAD--
--BY GIVING IT A PERSONAL INTRODUCTION TO THE ROOF!
AAAAGH!


OH, MAN! I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN HOW MUCH FUN I USED TO HAVE IN THE BOOKAPOLIS
NEXT TIME I START MISSING THE OLD HOOD, I'LL JUST STICK MY HEAD IN A CEMENT MIXER AND SAVE MYSELF THE AIRFARE


I WONDER IF QUICKGAIN COULD HAVE BEEN SERIOUS ABOUT HIRING SOMEONE TO KILL US
MAYBE SHE'S IN THE SAME FIX AS BILLY. MAYBE HERA'S TRYING ON YA COVER. AND SHE BILLY WANTS OUT OF THE BAD GUY BIZ!
SMOOT! STRIKE MUST BE WEARING IT ON ME. I'M ALREADY STARTING TO LOOK LIKE GUESS MYSELF LIKE YOUR AVERAGE UPTIGHT MIDDLE CLASS SUPER DUDE

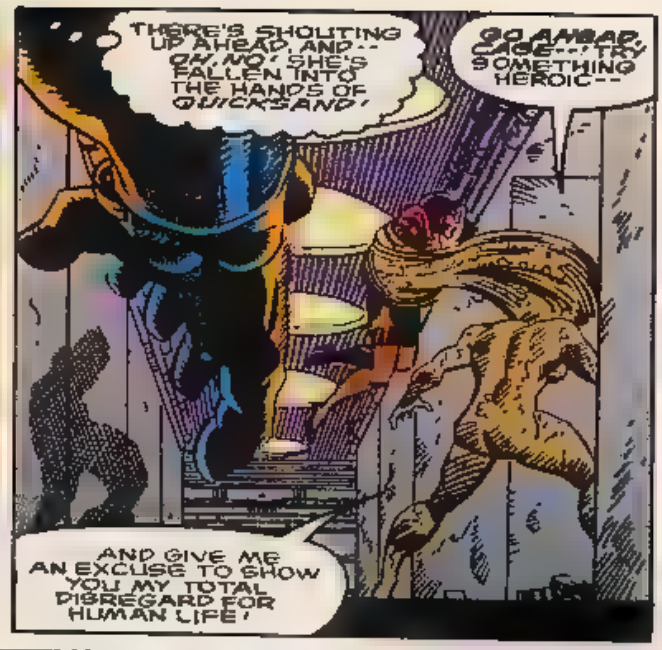

SPEAKING OF THUMP'S NEW STRIKE, WE'D BETTER LINK UP BEFORE... WAIT! I SUDDENLY HEAR SOMEONE RUNNING UP BEHIND ME
SHAMAN!?! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
LUKE! I... I FOLLOWED YOU HOPING YOU'D LEAD ME TO BILLY
SOMETHING HAPPENED HERE. BILLY TRANSFORMED INTO SOME KIND OF HORRIBLE MONSTER!


I KNOW GIRL... BUT WE CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT NOW! RUN SHAMAN! YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT HERE HERE BEFORE
UNNNNHH
TOO LATE, CAGE...


I ALREADY RECOVERED MUCH TO THE LADY'S DISMAY
LEAVE HER ALONE...
OH GOODY! I LOVE IT WHEN YOU GET ALL MACHO!
I WAS AFRAID YOU'D MAKE FUN OF ME FOR REVERTING TO A TIRED LUKE CAGE LIKE THIS OLD MOCKPLESS MOBTAGE ROUTINE

AND AT THAT VERY MOMENT
THE CONTAINMENT VESSEL IS FINALLY IN PLACE... BUT THERE'S STILL NO WORD FROM DEPAUL!
MANKIND WILL NEVER REACH A HIGHER LEVEL WHILE MONSTROUS WEAPONS LIKE INFERNO #2... ARE ALLOWED TO EXIST!
THE BRASS WANTED IT DESTROYED BUT DEPAUL CONVINCED THEM TO STORE IT AS A HEDGE AGAINST THE FUTURE!
NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO LIVE IN SUCH A FUTURE!
AND YET, I MUST PUT MY PERSONAL FEELINGS ASIDE... I HAVE MY ORDERS!
THE WORD IS GIVEN GO!
GO! GO!
THE CONTAINMENT VESSEL JUST HIT SUB-LEVEL ZERO!
SEVER THE ELEVATOR CABLE!
IT IS DONE!
ALL RIGHT! SOUND THE ALARM--AND OPEN THE FLOODGATES!
AAOOGA! AAOOGA!
"LET'S MOVE! WE HAVE ONLY TWENTY MINUTES TO EVACUATE THIS BASE!
"WHAT ABOUT DEPAUL?"
"THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO FOR HIM NOW. EXCEPT WISH HIM THE VERY BEST LUCK!"
AAOOGA! AAOOGA!

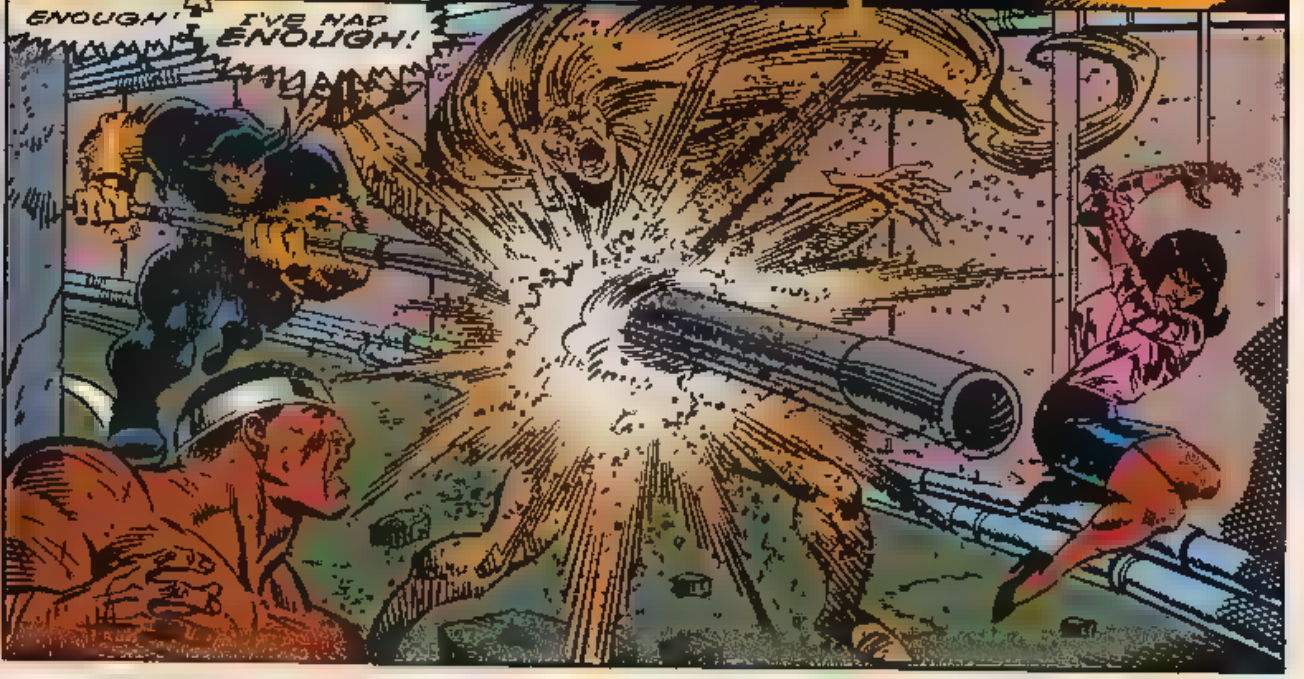
AAOOGA, AAOO
WHATEVER'S CAUSING THAT RACKET CAN'T BE GOOD NEWS!
WHERE IS SHAMARI?
I'VE GOT TO GET HER TO SAFETY BUT I'M NOT EVEN SURE SHE'S STILL ON THIS LEVEL!


THERE'S SHOUTING UP AHEAD, AND -- OH NO! SHE'S FALLEN INTO THE HANDS OF QUICKSAND!
GO AHEAD, CAGE--TRY SOMETHING HEROIC--
AND GIVE ME AN EXCUSE TO SHOW YOU MY TOTAL DISREGARD FOR HUMAN LIFE!

THIS IS ALL MY FAULT! I NEVER SHOULD HAVE RUN OUT ON HER IN THE FIRST PLACE!
--BUT I WAS TOO WRAPPED UP IN MY OWN PROBLEMS TO LISTEN TO REASON!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME? HOW COULD I HAVE EVER TRUSTED PEOPLE LIKE MONGOOSE AND QUICKSAND?

THEY USED ME! THEY MADE ME A FREAK--A MONSTER.. JUST LIKE THEM!


ENOUGH! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

I'M NOT SURPRISED YOU TURNED AGAINST ME, BISON! YOU ALWAYS WERE A WEAK-WILLED FOOL!

BUT EVEN YOU CAN'T HONESTLY BELIEVE YOU'LL BEAT ME AND LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER!

OOGA! AAOOG

I'M MAYBE A LITTLE NAIVE BUT I'M NOT COMPLETELY STUPID! I REALIZE THAT MY ONLY HOPE IS TO KEEP YOU OFF-BALANCE!

PWOOM!

EEYYIIIII!

GET DOWN, BAMMAR!!

THE IMPACT OF HIS HANDS SLAMMING TOGETHER IS SO INCREDIBLY POWERFUL THAT IT'S SPLATTERING HER ACROSS THE ENTIRE CORRIDOR!

YOU'RE AN EVEN GREATER MENACE THAN I EVER THOUGHT, BISON!

PHAW! BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE--?!

DON'T MOVE! MY ARMOR MAY BE DAMAGED BUT IT CAN STILL LEAVE A GAPING HOLE IN YOUR HEAD!

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU SUDDENLY SWITCHED SIDES, BUT--WHAT THE?! THE WATER HAS ALREADY REACHED THIS LEVEL!

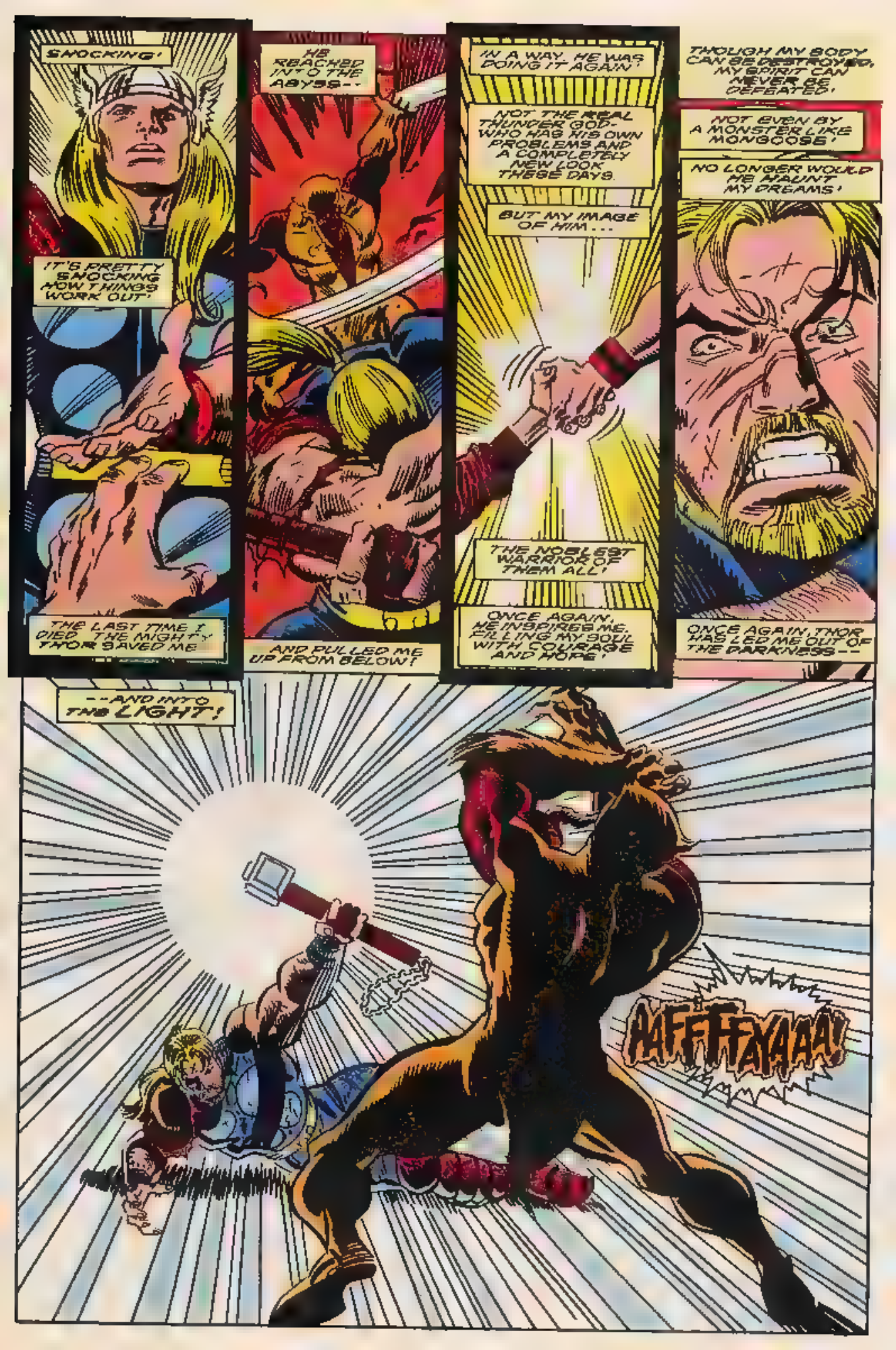
WHERE'S IT COMING FROM?!

THE RIVER! I PLANNED TO SECURE THE [illegible] BY FLOODING THIS ABANDONED BASE!

I THOUGHT WE HAD MORE TIME! OH, NO! IT'S SPLASHING INTO MY ARMOR, AND--

ARRGH!

KZ-ZAKK


SHOCKING!
IT'S PRETTY SHOCKING HOW THINGS WORK OUT!
THE LAST TIME I DIED THE MIGHTY THOR SAVED ME
HE REACHED INTO THE ABYSS--
AND PULLED ME UP FROM BELOW!
IN A WAY, HE WAS DOING IT AGAIN!
NOT THE REAL THUNDER GOD- WHO HAS HIS OWN PROBLEMS AND A COMPLETELY NEW LOOK THESE DAYS.
BUT MY IMAGE OF HIM...
THE NOBLEST WARRIOR OF THEM ALL!
ONCE AGAIN, HE INSPIRED ME. FILLING MY SOUL WITH COURAGE AND HOPE!
THOUGH MY BODY CAN BE DESTROYED, MY SPIRIT CAN NEVER BE DEFEATED!
NOT EVEN BY A MONSTER LIKE MONGOOSE!
NO LONGER WOULD HE HAUNT MY DREAMS!
ONCE AGAIN, THOR HAS LED ME OUT OF THE DARKNESS--
--AND INTO THE LIGHT!
PAFFFFAYAAA!

NEVER AGAIN WOULD I FEAR THOSE TERRIBLE EYES!

W-WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? I. I'M BLIND!

BLIND!!

I'VE GOT REAL BAD NEWS FOR YOU, PAL.

THAT'S THE LEAST OF YOUR PROBLEMS!

I LASH OUT STRIKING AS VICIOUSLY, AS MERCILESSLY AS HE!

ALMOST GLEEFULLY, I STAGGERED HIM WITH BLOW AFTER HIGH IMPACT BLOW!

IT WOULD BE SO EASY TO REVEL IN THIS MAELSTROM OF FURY!

BUT THOR WOULD NEVER STRIKE A HELPLESS FOE!

NOR WILL I!

FORCING MY FIST TO STOP TAKES A FAR GREATER ACT OF WILL... THAN I'D EVER CARE TO ADMIT!

I'M STILL CONGRATULATING MYSELF WHEN A NEW COMPLICATION ENTERS MY LIFE...

INSTINCTIVELY, MY GRIP TIGHTENS ON MONGOOSE! FOR ALL HIS CRIMES, I CANNOT LET HIM DOWN!

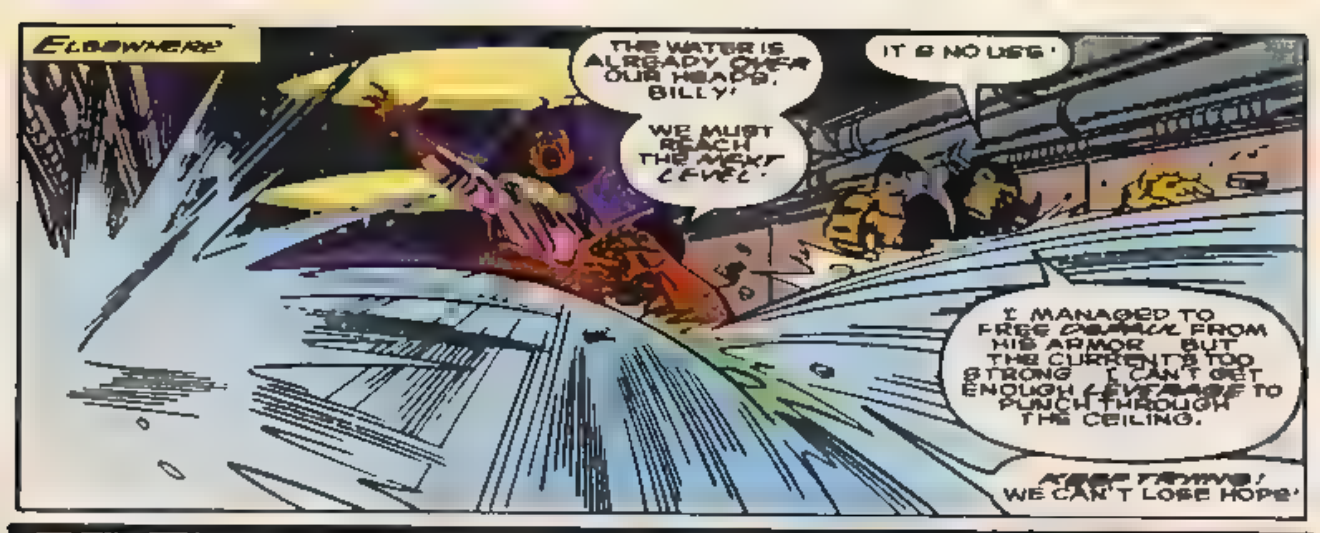
BUT THEN

RELEASE ME, YOU SPINELESS FOOL!

I WOULD RATHER DIE FREE... THAN ROT IN PRISON!

MONGOOSE-- NO!

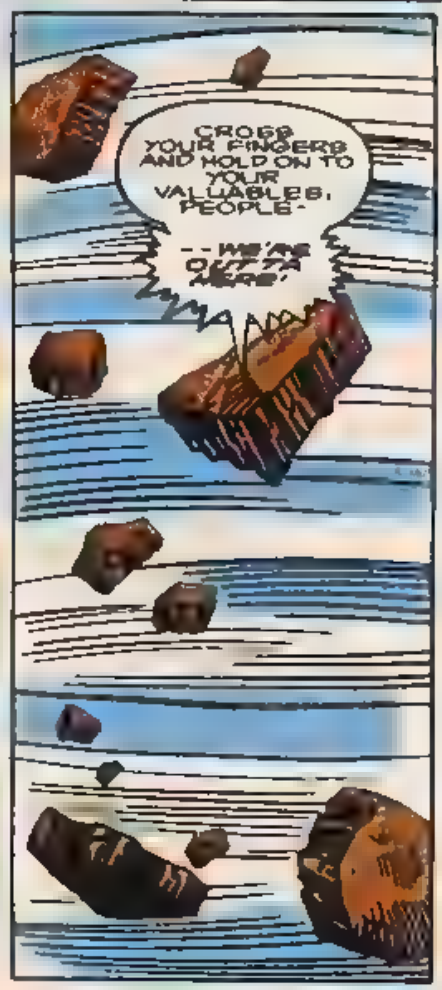
NO!!

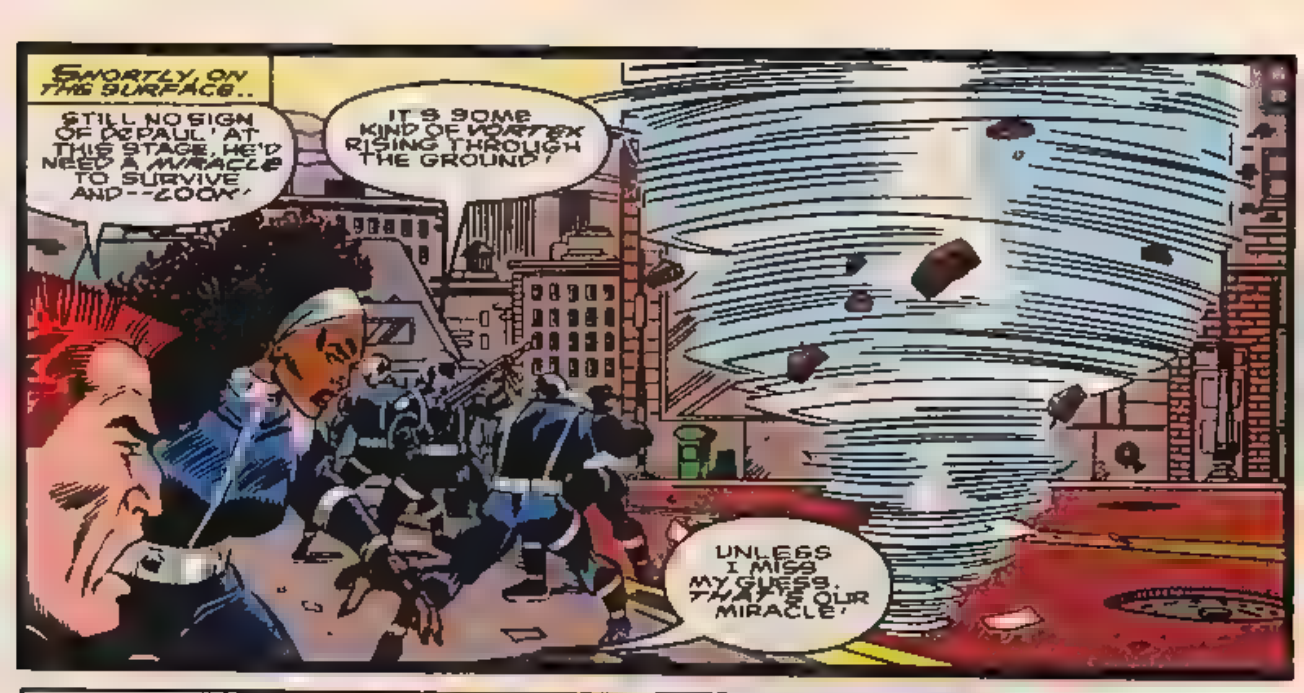

ELSEWHERE
THE WATER IS ALREADY OVER OUR HEADS, BILLY!
WE MUST REACH THE NEXT LEVEL!
IT'S NO USE!
I MANAGED TO FREE DEMAUL FROM HIS ARMOR BUT THE CURRENT'S TOO STRONG I CAN'T GET ENOUGH LEVERAGE TO PUNCH THROUGH THE CEILING.
KEEP TRYING! WE CAN'T LOSE HOPE!

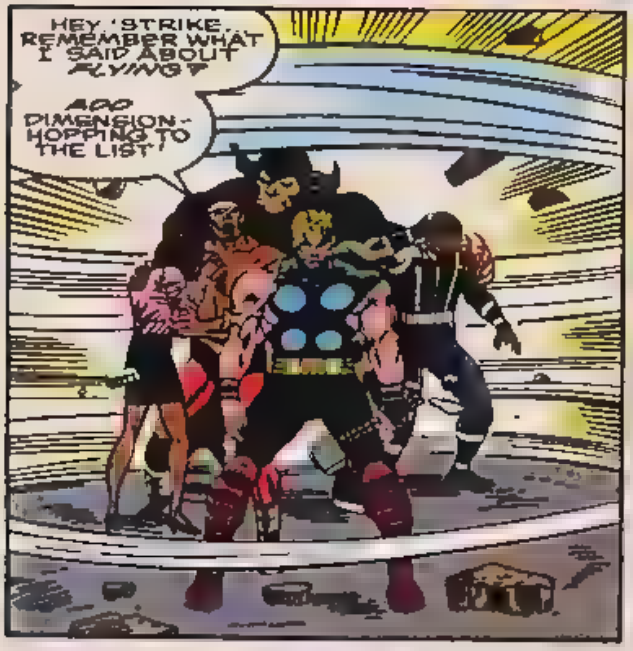
KWA-FOOM!
LISTEN... ABOVE THE ROAR OF THE WATER IT SOUNDS LIKE THUNDER!
YEAH, AND THAT'S THE SWEETEST MUSIC I EVER HEARD!
SWING THIS WAY, CAGE! SHAMARI AND DEPAUL SHOULD GO FIRST!

THANKS FOR THE ASSIST STRIKE
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D EVER RESURFACE!
THAT MAKES TWO OF US
WE GAINED A FEW MINUTES AT MOST! THIS CHAMBER IS ALREADY BEGINNING TO FLOOD!

NO PROBLEM! YOU'RE NOW IN THE HANDS OF A MAN WITH AN ENCHANTED MACE--
-AND DIMENSION-WARPING IS MY SPECIALTY!
YOU SURE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING?
NOPE BUT WE DON'T HAVE A WHOLE LOT OF OPTIONS!


CROSS YOUR FINGERS AND HOLD ON TO YOUR VALUABLES, PEOPLE-
--WE'RE OUTTA HERE!


SHORTLY, ON THE SURFACE..
STILL NO SIGN OF DEPAUL! AT THIS STAGE, HE'D NEED A MIRACLE TO SURVIVE AND--LOOK!
IT'S SOME KIND OF VORTEX RISING THROUGH THE GROUND!
UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, THAT'S OUR MIRACLE!


HEY, STRIKE, REMEMBER WHAT I SAID ABOUT FLYING?
ADD DIMENSION-HOPPING TO THE LIST!

FREEZE! YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST!
AT EASE SERGEANT! THOSE PEOPLE ARE WITH ME!
AGENT 22! IS THE PACKAGE SECURE?
PROJECT SINKHOLE PROCEEDED AS ORDERED, SIR
EXCELLENT! EXCELLENT!

UNFORTUNATELY, I WAS UNABLE TO APPREHEND OR IDENTIFY ANY OF THE INTRUDERS
BUT SIR
TRUST ME, AGENT THEY ALL ESCAPED! YOU WILL READ THE DETAILS IN MY REPORT!

WELL, WELL WHAT DO YOU KNOW? DEPAUL IS HUMAN AFTER ALL
YEAH

AREN'T WE ALL?
FOR SOME THE HARD PART IS ONLY BEGINNING!

HOME-WRECKER!
THE WRECKER'S BACK IN TOWN--
--AND HE'S GOOD AND MAD!
DO YA HEAR ME, CREEPS--
ROY THOMAS
WRITER
LARRY ALEXANDER
PENCILER
CHARLES BARNETT
INKER
JANICE CHANG
LETTERER
PAUL BECTON
COLORIST
MIKE ROCKWITZ
EDITOR
RALPH MACCHIO
GROUP EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO
EDITOR OF EDITORS

MAD!

HOW DOES HE MANAGE THAT RIGGER?

EVERY WAY YOU CAN SLICE IT, MAD DOG!

FIREWORKS! YOU ABOUT READY TO MAKE LIKE THE FOURTH O' JULY OVER THERE?

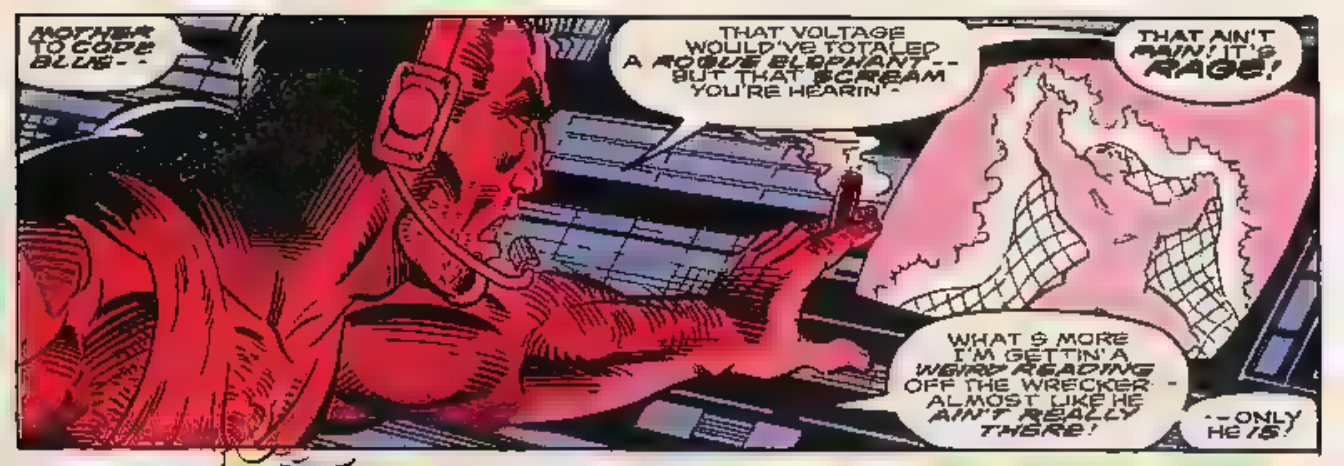
LET ME PUT IT LIKE THIS, SISTER--

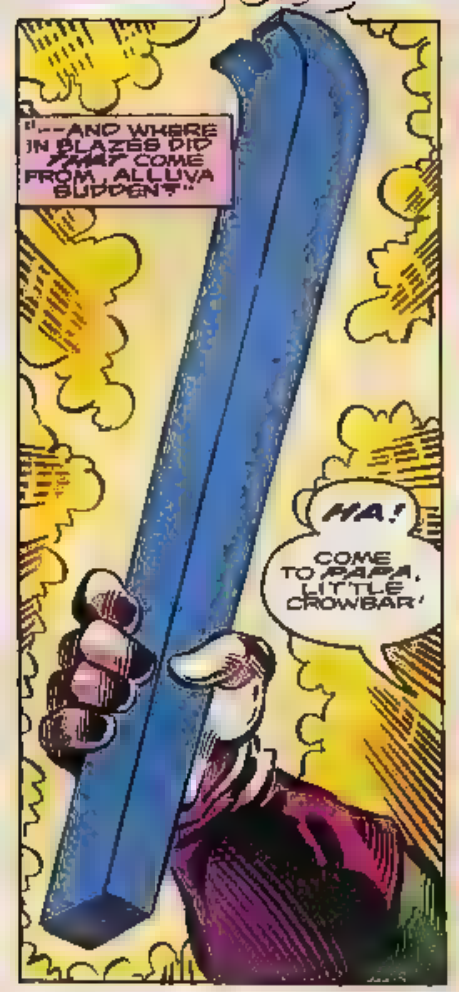
"ON BAY, CAN YOU SEE--"

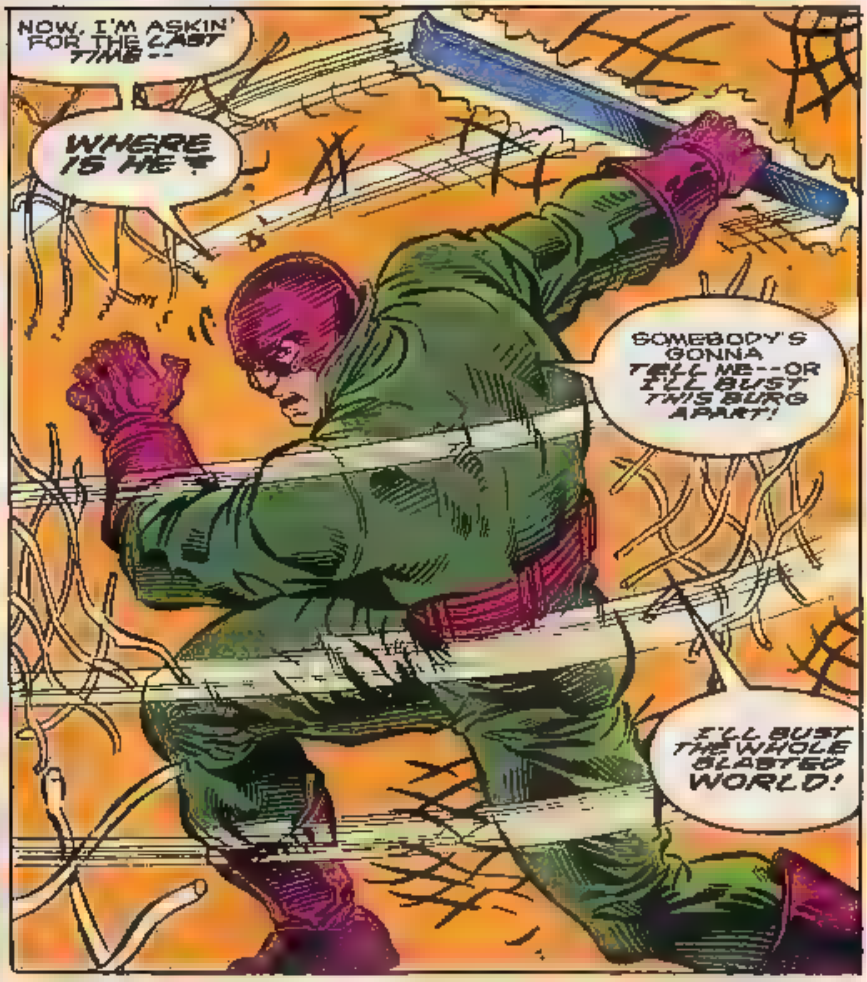
"--BY THE NET'S EARLY LIGHT--"

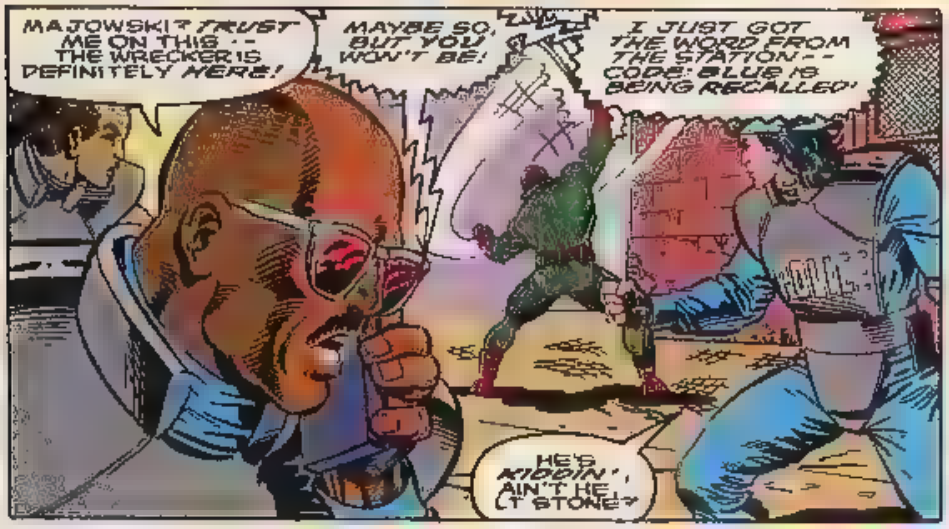
AARRRRRGGG!

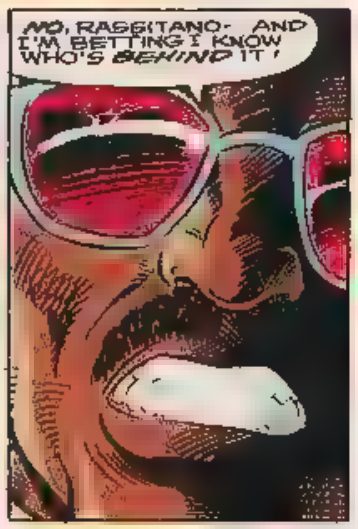
SSZZZZZTT


MOTHER TO CODE BLUE--
THAT VOLTAGE WOULD'VE TOTALED A ROGUE ELEPHANT--BUT THAT SCREAM YOU'RE HEARIN'--
THAT AIN'T PAIN! IT'S RAGE!
WHAT'S MORE I'M GETTIN' A WEIRD READING OFF THE WRECKER--ALMOST LIKE HE AIN'T REALLY THERE!
--ONLY HE IS!


"--AND WHERE IN BLAZES DID THAT COME FROM, ALLUVA BUDDEN?"
HA!
COME TO PAPA, LITTLE CROWBAR!


NOW, I'M ASKIN' FOR THE LAST TIME--
WHERE IS HE?
SOMEBODY'S GONNA TELL ME--OR I'LL BUST THIS BURG APART!
I'LL BUST THE WHOLE BLASTED WORLD!


MAJOWSKI? TRUST ME ON THIS--THE WRECKER IS DEFINITELY HERE!
MAYBE SO, BUT YOU WON'T BE!
I JUST GOT THE WORD FROM THE STATION--CODE: BLUE IS BEING RECALLED!
HE'S KIDDIN', AIN'T HE, LT STONE?


NO, RAGGITANO--AND I'M BETTING I KNOW WHO'S BEHIND IT!

MARCUS STONE WINS THE BET.

YOU KNEW THE RULES, CHIEF O'GRADY-- CAPTAIN CONKLIN.

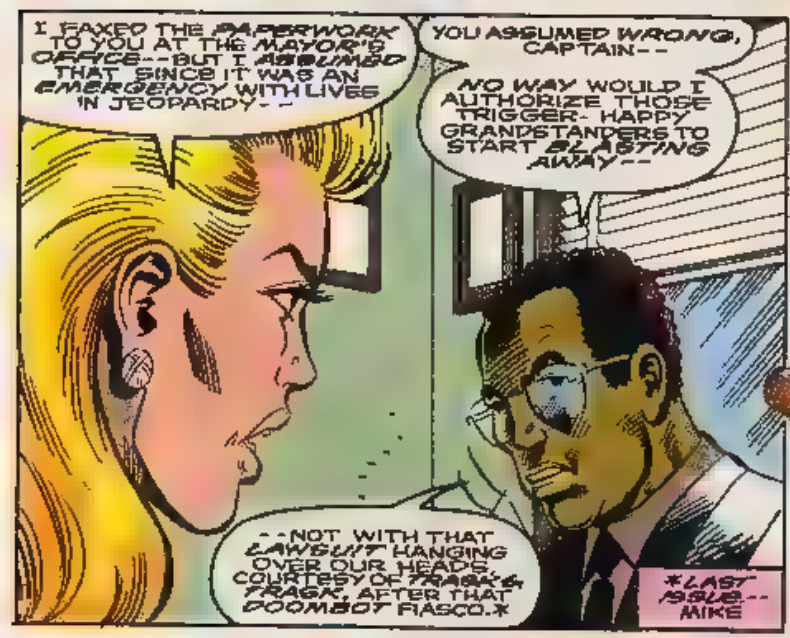
NO, REPEAT, NO NEW MISSIONS FOR CODE: BLUE WITHOUT MY PERSONAL AUTHORIZATION.

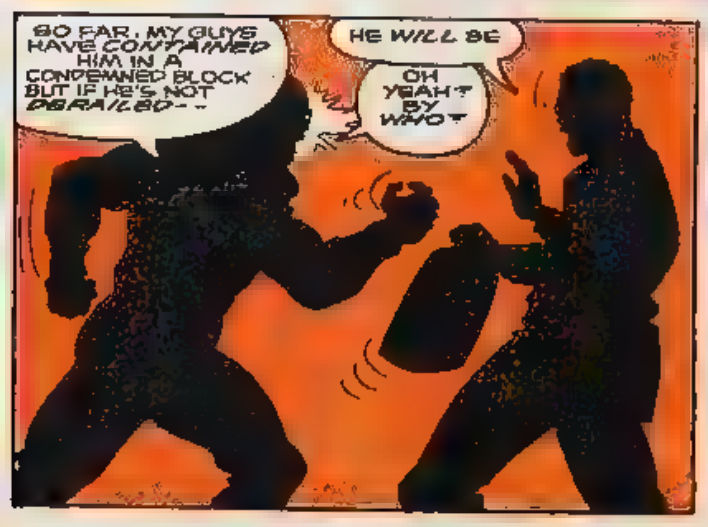
NOW, LOOK- I DIDN'T--

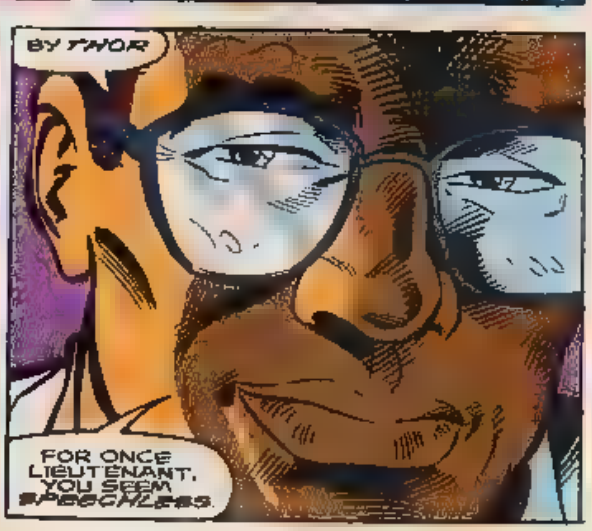
THE CHIEF KNEW NOTHING ABOUT IT, MR. YOUNG.

I SENT THEM OUT AFTER THE WRECKER

YOU DID?







"I TRUST YOU'LL ADMIT THE SO-CALLED GOD OF THUNDER HAS A SLIGHT EDGE EVEN ON CODE BLUE!"

PUT DOWN YOUR WEAPON, WRECKER - AND CEASE YOUR WANTON DESTRUCTION!

SO COMMANDS THOR!

HUH? THAT'S A FANCY NEW OUTFIT YOU GOT THERE, BLONDIE

BUT IF YOU GET IN MY WAY, YOU'LL NEED AN UNDERTAKER!

INSTEAD OF SENDING MERE MEN WITH GUNS UP AGAINST THE SUPER-POWERED WRECKER--

--I PHONED THE AVENGERS--THOUGH THEY PROVED TO BE OUT OF TOWN--POSSIBLY EVEN OUT OF THE PLANET

LET'S SEE IF THE MEDIA'S PICKED THIS UP YET

CLICK!

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO BREAK THIS TO YOU, MR YOUNG-

-BUT THOR ISN'T AN AVENGER ANYMORE

NO, BUT THEIR BUTLER INFORMED ME THOR HAD DROPPED BY LOOKING FOR HIS OLD FRIENDS,* SO I MANAGED TO CONTACT HIM

WE'LL HANDLE THAT THUG AND IT WON'T COST NEW YORK ONE RED CENT!

THE MAN MAY HAVE A PONY, CAPTAIN.

*SEE THOR #481.--MIKE

THEN HE BETTER PUT ON A HAT TO COVER IT UP, CHIEF--

--BECAUSE FROM WHERE I STAND--

"--THOR DOESN'T LOOK TO BE DOING ANY BETTER THAN WE WERE!"

THWAK

UNNNHHH!

NOW, KEEP OUT'TA MY WAY GOLDILOCKS--

CAUSE I GOT'TA SEE A MAN ABOUT A DEATH... ME!

THE WRECKER SEEMS EVEN MORE POWERFUL THAN WHEN LAST WE FOUGHT

HE SEEMS CHARGED SOMEHOW WITH SOME NEW SOURCE OF ENERGY

TRULY, THAT MAKES HIM DOUBLY DANGEROUS WHOEVER HE SEEKS--

--AND HE MUST BE STOPPED!

FOOM

OOOOPH!

YOU'RE GONNA BE SORRY YOU DID THAT, PAL--

--REAL SORRY

I DON'T CARE IF THE AVENGERS WON'T LIKE YOU BREAKING INTO THEIR COMPUTER SYSTEM MAJOWSKI

I WANT EVERYTHING THEY VE GOT ABOUT THE WRECKER & LAST LITTLE TRADE. WE WERE IN ON IT--

BUT WE WERE NEVER TOLD WHY HE JUST DISAPPEARED--

ARE YOU ALL THROUGH, LIEUTENANT?

FOR THE MOMENT

GOOD. THEN HERE'S WHAT'S IN THE AVENGERS' FILES...

"THE WRECKER WAS BEING TORTURED BY LOKI, NO LESS, WHO EVIDENTLY STRIPPED HIM OF SOME ASGARDIAN POWERS HE'D LATCHED ONTO.

"THE SO-CALLED GOD OF EVIL BLASTED HIS PERSONALITY TO ITTY BITTY PIECES--

*THOR #451 MIKE

"THEN, WITH THOR CLOSING IN-- AND HIS CAPTIVE APPARENTLY DYING--

"-- THE AVENGERS SUSPECT THAT LOKI SENT THE POOR DEVIL INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION!

GREAT! SOMEHOW, WHEREVER HE WOUND UP, THE WRECKER MUST'VE FOUND A NEW POWER SOURCE

AND LUCKY US-- WE GET THE FIRST LOOK AT WHAT IT CAN DO!

"NAMELY--FIGHT FAVOR AND HIS HAMMER TO A STANDSTILL.

KCHANG

"WAITAMINNIT! MAYBE I SPOKE OUT OF TURN!

"THE OLD THUNDER-MEISTER'S SNAKED HIS MALLET AROUND THE CROWBAR--

"--AND WRENCHED IT CLEAN OUT OF THE WRECKER'S HAND!

"LET'S SEE IF WE CAN PICK UP SOME SOUND ON THIS, MAJOWSKI

I WAN. TO BE IN THE RING.

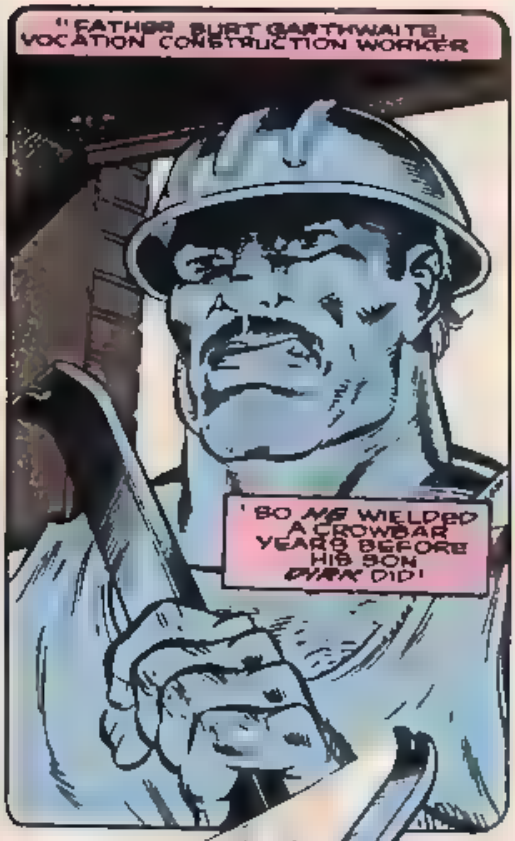
--NEVER STOP ME!

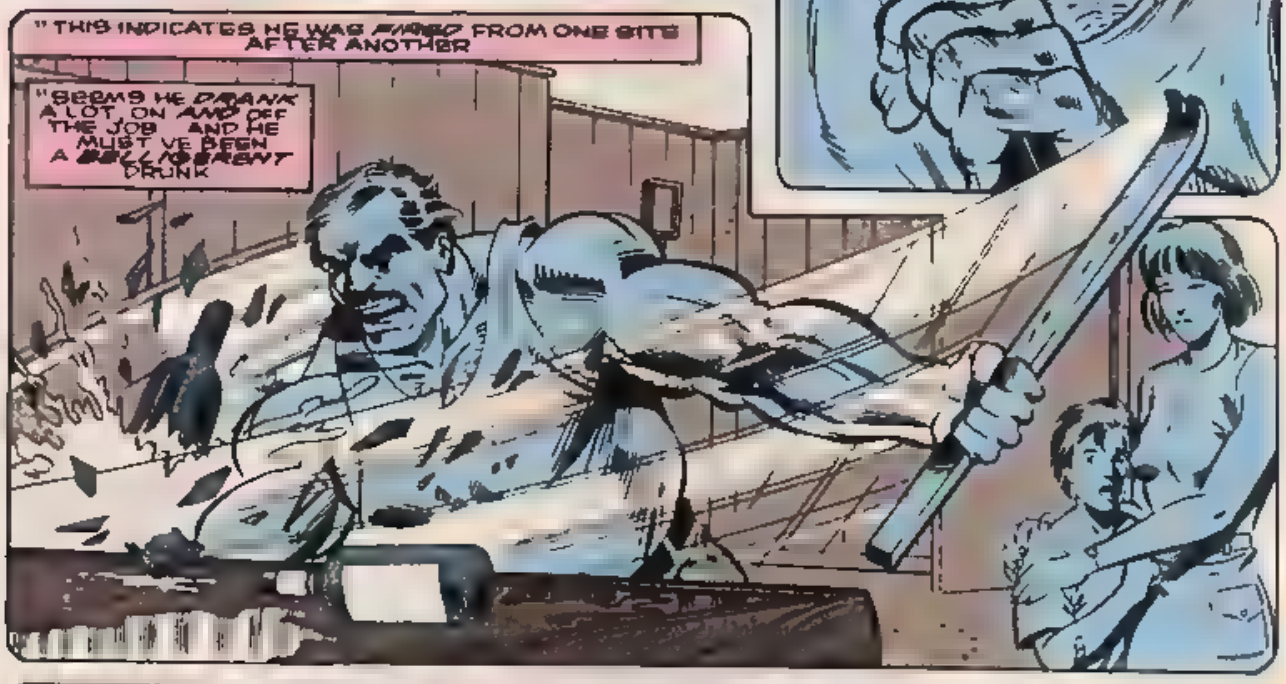
YOU'RE RIGHT! THAT GLOW-- SEEMS TO BE RE-ENERGIZING HIM!

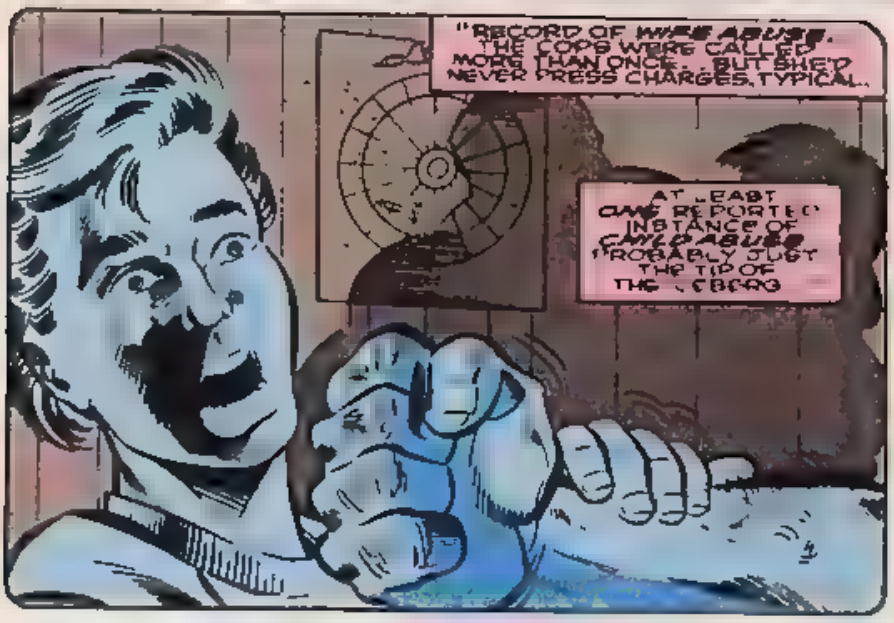
IT AIN'T OVER TILL IT'S OVER, LIEUTENANT

"NOW HE'S ABSORBED THE GLOW - WHEREVER IT CAME FROM AND -
"I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HIS CROWBAR - - IT'S FLYING BACK TO HIM!
FOR YEARS, YOU'VE LORDED IT OVER ME WITH YOUR HOLIER - THAN - THOU HAMMER...
THRAKK
NOW IT'S MY TURN TO DO THE HAMMERIN'!
FIRST ON YOU THEN ON MY OLD MAN!

MAJOWSKI--THAT CRACK ABOUT HIS CAPTAIN--IT MIGHT BE THE CLUE WE'RE LOOKING FOR! CAN YOU
WAY AHEAD OF YOU LIEUTENANT
HERE COMES THE DRAW DATA

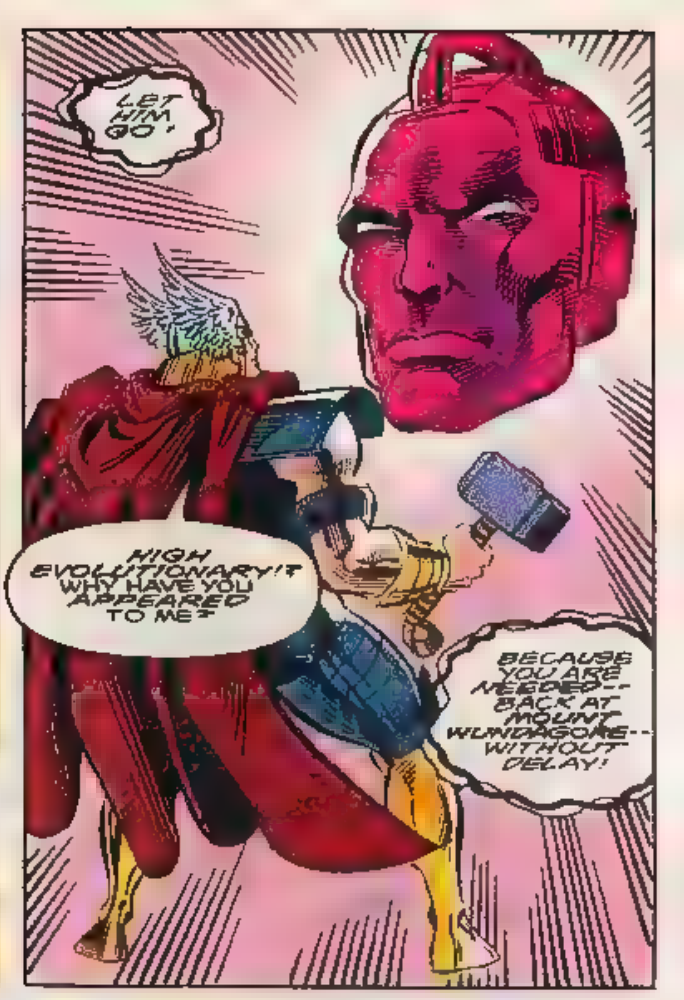

"FATHER BURT GARTHWAITE. VOCATION CONSTRUCTION WORKER
'SO ME WIELDED A CROWBAR YEARS BEFORE HIS SON DYPAK DID!

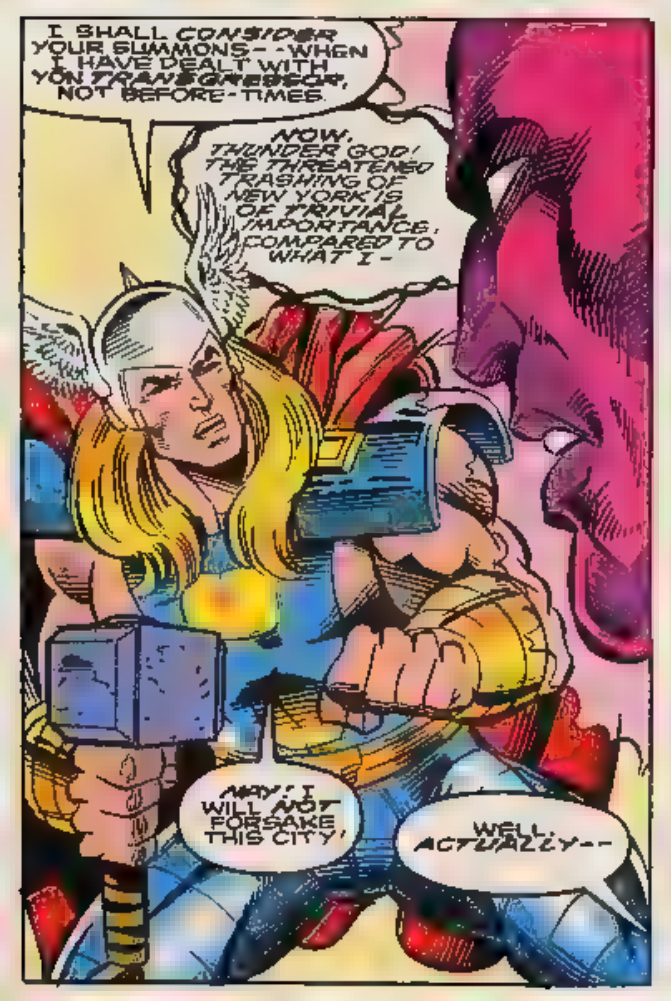

"THIS INDICATES HE WAS FIRED FROM ONE SITE AFTER ANOTHER
"SEEMS HE DRANK A LOT ON AND OFF THE JOB AND HE MUST'VE BEEN A BELLIGERENT DRUNK

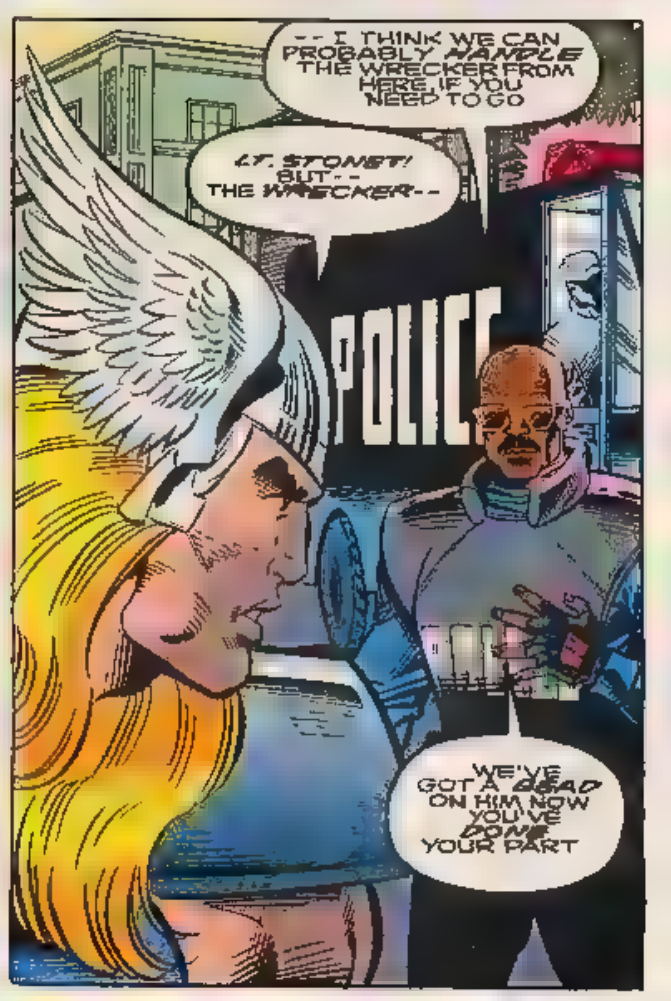

"RECORD OF WIFE ABUSE. THE COPS WERE CALLED MORE THAN ONCE. BUT SHE'D NEVER PRESS CHARGES. TYPICAL.
AT LEAST ONE REPORTED INSTANCE OF CHILD ABUSE. PROBABLY JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG

THAT ICEBERG'S NOW CALLED THE WRECKER--
--AND IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S COME BACK TO SETTLE AN OLD SCORE!

WRECKER! TURN NOT YOUR BACK UPON ME, VILLAIN!
YOU BUT FELLED THOR FOR A FLEETING MOMENT! YOU DID NOT DEFEAT HIM!
GET LOST, BLONDIE! I'VE GOT OTHER FISH TO FRY.


LET HIM GO!
HIGH EVOLUTIONARY! WHY HAVE YOU APPEARED TO ME?
BECAUSE YOU ARE NEEDED-- BACK AT MOUNT WUNDAGORE-- WITHOUT DELAY!


I SHALL CONSIDER YOUR SUMMONS-- WHEN I HAVE DEALT WITH YON TRANSGRESSOR, NOT BEFORE-TIMES.
NOW, THUNDER GOD! THE THREATENED TRASHING OF NEW YORK IS OF TRIVIAL IMPORTANCE, COMPARED TO WHAT I--
NAY! I WILL NOT FORSAKE THIS CITY!
WELL, ACTUALLY--


--I THINK WE CAN PROBABLY HANDLE THE WRECKER FROM HERE, IF YOU NEED TO GO
LT. STONE! BUT-- THE WRECKER--
POLICE
WE'VE GOT A DEAD ON HIM NOW YOU'VE DONE YOUR PART

IN SOOTH, I LIKE THIS NOT, MORTAL! NE'ER HAS IT BEEN SAID THE SON OF ODIN DID SHIRK HIS BOUNDEN DUTY!

CAN YOU SAY THAT AGAIN?

I JUST LOVE THE WAY HE TALKS!

YOU'RE NOT SHIRKING ANYTHING, THOR. IT'S JUST THAT WE WANT TO TRY A DIFFERENT TACK--ON OUR OWN

POLICE

POLICE

YOU RE THE THOR WHO TACKLED GUYS LIKE THE RADIOACTIVE MAN AND MR HYDE FIRST, AREN T YOU?

...OR WAS THAT THE OTHER ONE?

THUNDERSTRIKE? NAY, 'TWAS I.

SEE? I TOLD YOU!

YOU VE GOT NOTHING TO PROVE, THUNDER-MAN

MY WIFE SAYS YOU SAVED HER UNCLE'S LIFE, WHEN ME WAS ON THE FORCE!

'TIS YOUR KIND WHO ARE THE TRUE HEROES IN THIS WORLD NOT ONE BORN WITH LIGHTNING IN HIS FISTS AND THE STORM WITHIN HIS HEART

YET, FOR ALL YOUR COURAGE, YOU'VE NOT THE RAW POWER TO STOP THE WRECKER

UNLESS YOU CAN GIVE GOOD REASON WHY I SHOULD STEP ASIDE, I CANNOT ANSWER THE CALL FROM AFAR

THEN I'LL GIVE YOU ONE THOR

YOU SEE, I'VE GOT THIS PLAN

MOMENTS LATER

MARS YOU WELL WARRIORS IN BLUE!

THE SAFETY OF THE CITY IS HENCEFORTH IN YOUR HANDS GUARD IT FIRMLY!

WE WILL

WITH OUR LIVES

I JUST PRAY LT STONE DIDN'T SCREW UP, SENDING THOR AWAY!

THE PRECINCT STATION

WHAT? DID YOU SAY... THOR IS LOST THE COUNTRY?

ALL RIGHT, STONE, I CAN SEE I'VE GOT NO CHOICE

CHIEF O'GRADY CHIEF OF POLICE

CODE BLUE'S GOT THE GREEN LIGHT TO GO AFTER THE WRECKER

BUT I'M WARNING YOU, CAPT CONKLIN -- IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG --

-- YOU'RE GOING TO WISH YOU'D STAYED ON THE MOMMY TRACK!

NICE GUY IF THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES TO SUCCEED IN POLITICS --

DON'T JUDGE ALL POLITICIANS BY HIM, CAPTAIN. ONE OR TWO OF THEM ARE ACTUALLY ALMOST HUMAN.

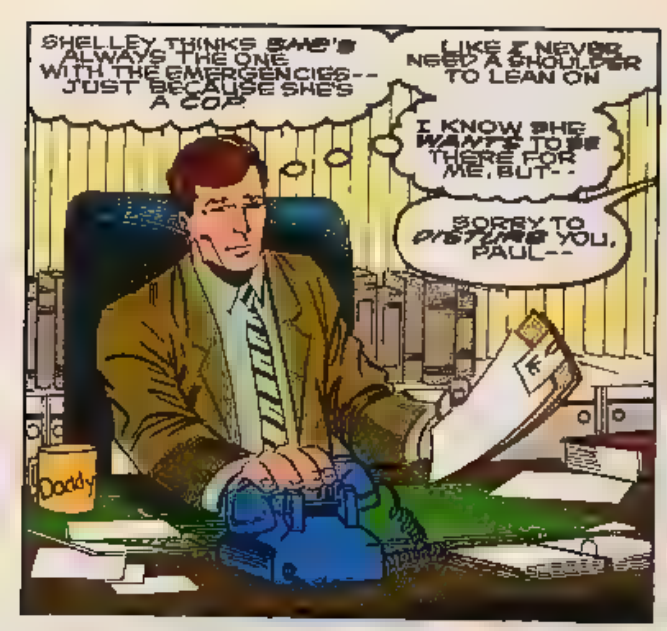
GET THAT WILL YOU?

RRINNNG

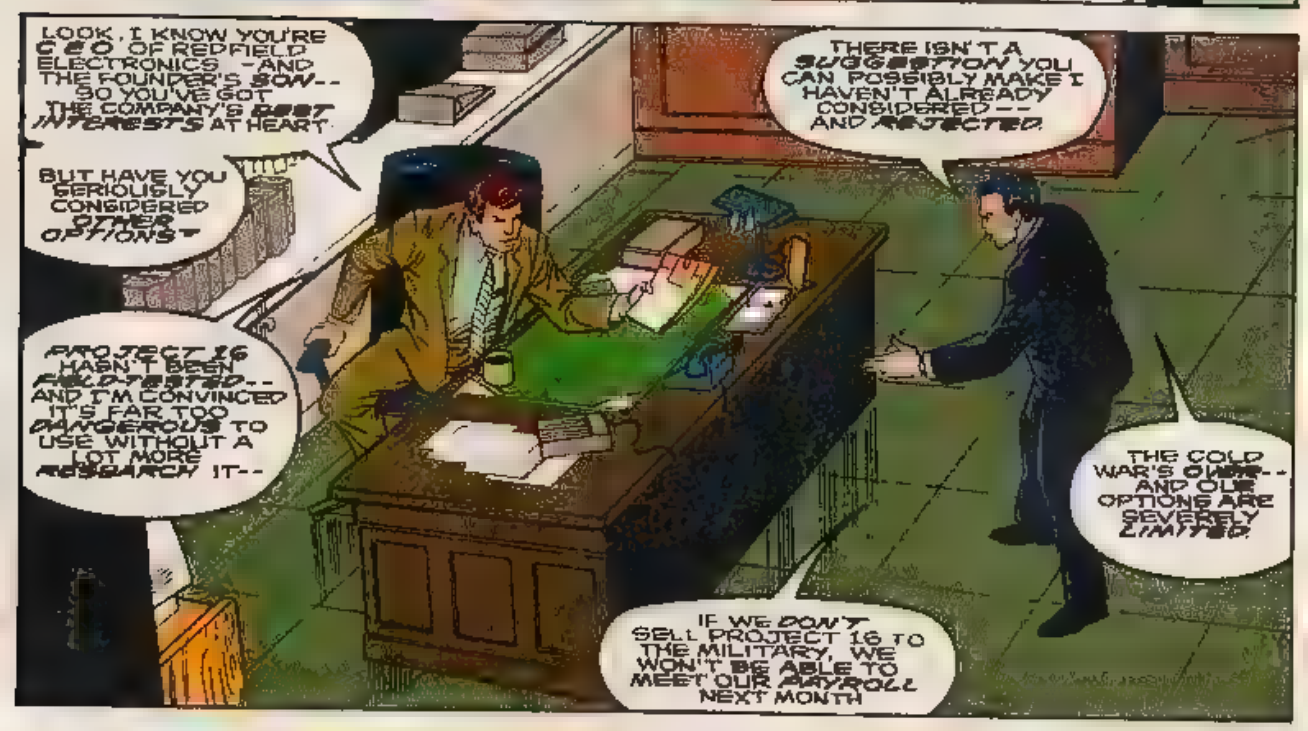
CAPT. CONKLIN HERE -- OH HI, PAUL. THEY TOLD YOU I WAS WITH THE CHIEF, HUH?

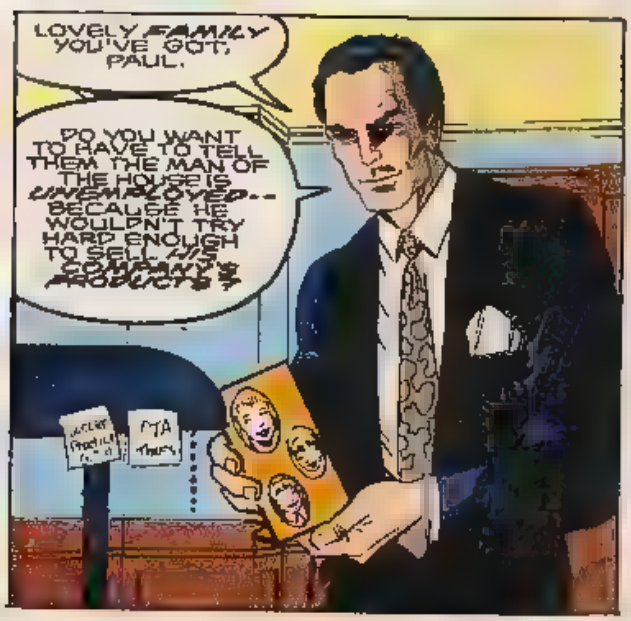
SORRY, BUT I'LL HAVE TO CALL YOU BACK LATER. KIND OF AN EMERGENCY HERE.

BYE HONEY


SHELLEY THINKS SHE'S ALWAYS THE ONE WITH THE EMERGENCIES-- JUST BECAUSE SHE'S A COP.
LIKE I NEVER NEED A SHOULDER TO LEAN ON
I KNOW SHE WANTS TO BE THERE FOR ME, BUT--
SORRY TO DISTURB YOU, PAUL--
Daddy

-- BUT I HAD TO BE CERTAIN PROJECT 16 IS READY.
REMEMBER, THE PENTAGON BRASS IS COMING TOMORROW TO LOOK IT OVER.
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO THINK ABOUT MUCH OF ANYTHING ELSE, JIM.


LOOK, I KNOW YOU'RE CEO OF REDFIELD ELECTRONICS --AND THE FOUNDER'S SON-- SO YOU'VE GOT THE COMPANY'S BEST INTERESTS AT HEART.
BUT HAVE YOU SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED OTHER OPTIONS--
PROJECT 16 HASN'T BEEN FIELD-TESTED-- AND I'M CONVINCED IT'S FAR TOO DANGEROUS TO USE WITHOUT A LOT MORE RESEARCH IT--
THERE ISN'T A SUGGESTION YOU CAN POSSIBLY MAKE I HAVEN'T ALREADY CONSIDERED -- AND REJECTED.
THE COLD WAR'S OVER-- AND OUR OPTIONS ARE SEVERELY LIMITED.
IF WE DON'T SELL PROJECT 16 TO THE MILITARY, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO MEET OUR PAYROLL NEXT MONTH.


LOVELY FAMILY YOU'VE GOT, PAUL.
DO YOU WANT TO HAVE TO TELL THEM THE MAN OF THE HOUSE IS UNEMPLOYED-- BECAUSE HE WOULDN'T TRY HARD ENOUGH TO SELL HIS COMPANY'S PRODUCTS?

YOU... WIN, JIM.
I'M ON BOARD.
PROJECT 16 WILL BE READY--AS SCHEDULED.
Daddy
GOOD MAN.

GIVE IT UP, JERKY!

I'LL GIVE YOU *THIS*, COPPER IF YOU GNATS DON'T GET OUT OF *MY WAY!*

YOU'VE GOT A *CLEAR SHOT*, RIGGER!

THANKS FOR *TELLING* ME FIREWORKS!

I'D *NEVER* HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FIGURE THAT OUT FOR *MYSELF*

WOOM

YOU REALLY THINK ANYTHING *YOU CREEPS* CAN THROW AT ME IS GONNA *STOP* ME?

WELL, *OWE* PART OF YOUR PLAN IS ON TRACK ANYWAY, LIEUTENANT

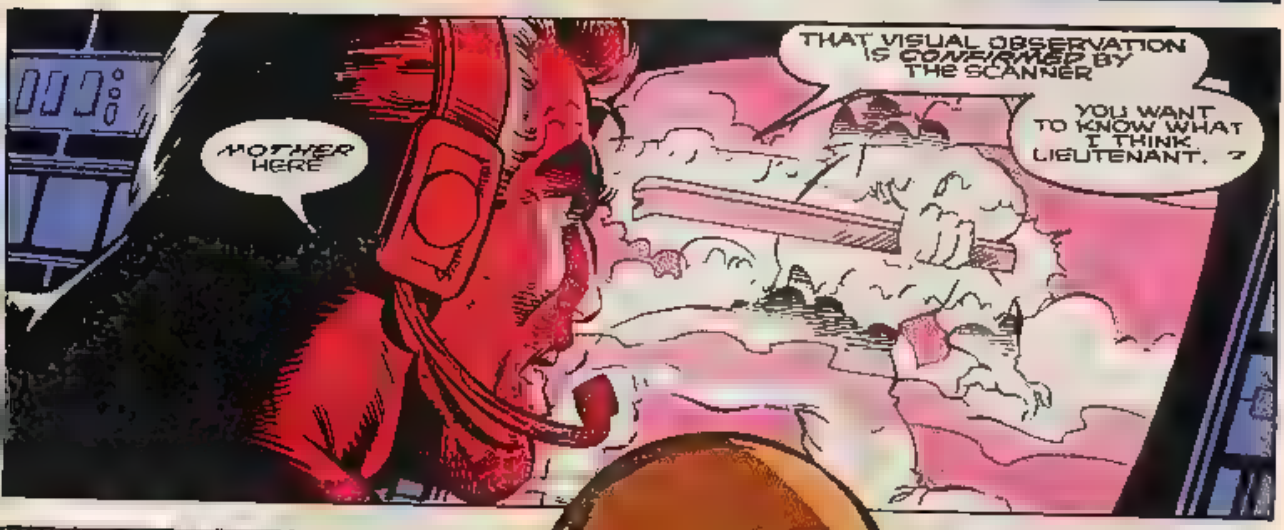
RIGHT! WE'RE GETTING HIM TO SIDESTEP THE *POPULATED* AREAS

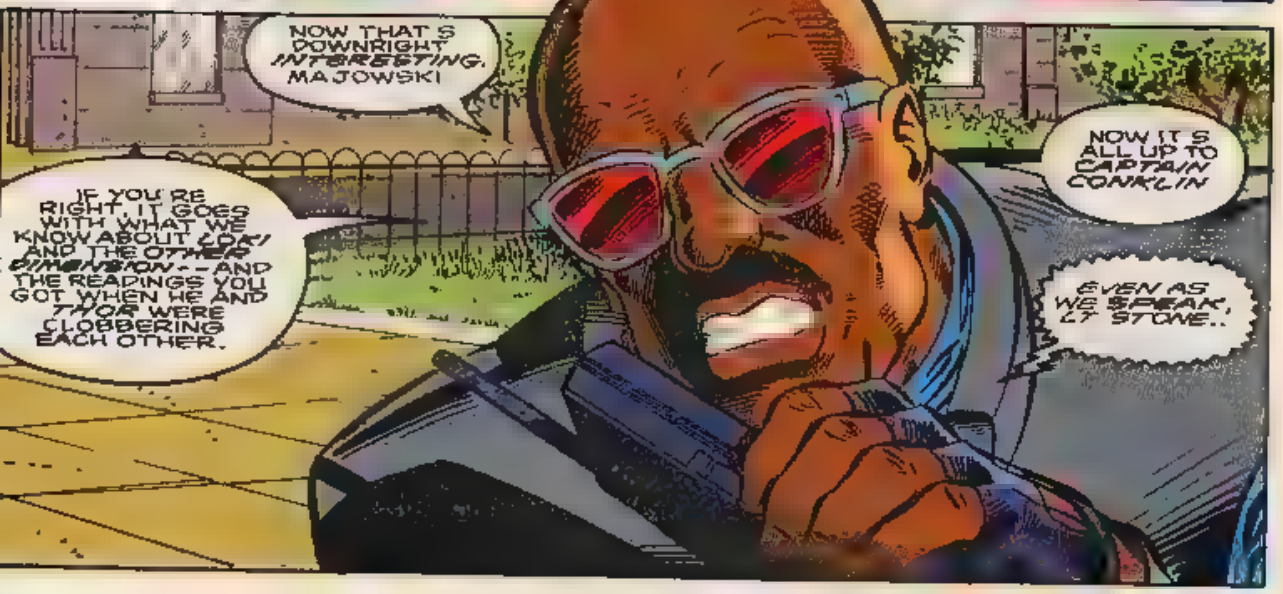
YEAH - BY GETTING HIM TO CHASE AFTER *US*

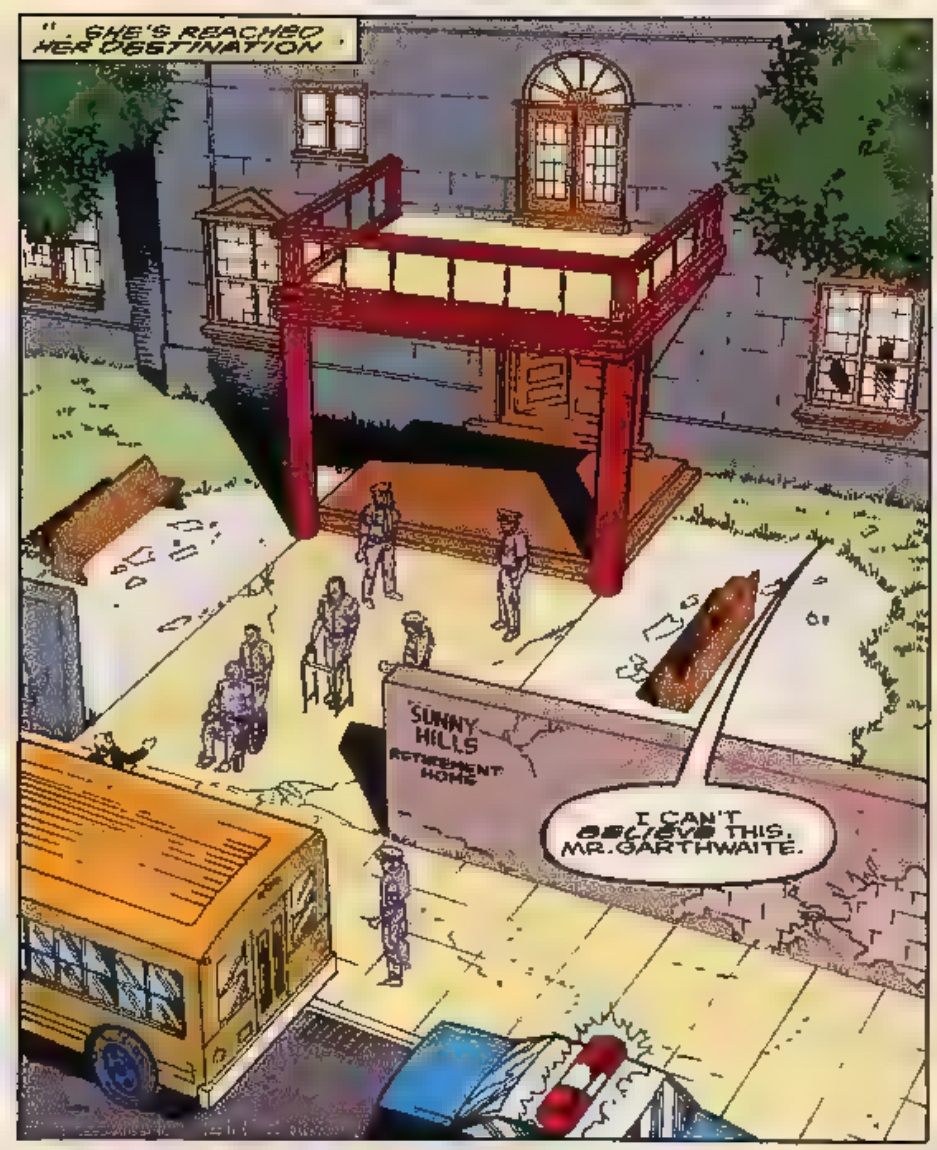
GOES WITH THE *TERRITORY*, RUIZ! WE'RE THE *EXPENDABLES*, REMEMBER?

FIERSTEIN--!
ONE GAS GRENADE, COMING UP, LT STONE
NO!

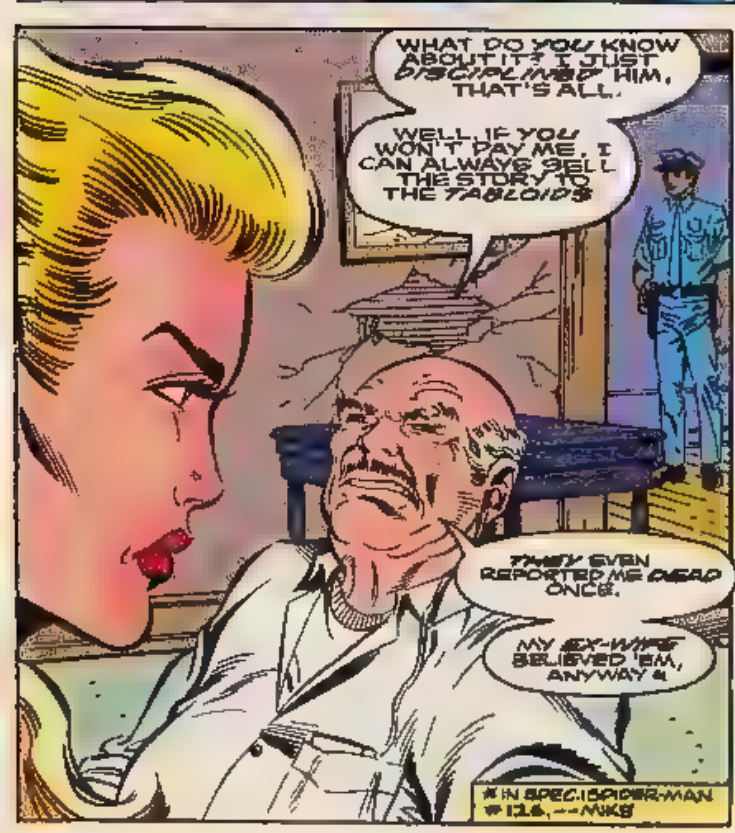
YOU'RE NOT GONNA BRING ME DOWN THAT WAY!
NOT ANY WAY!
WHAT IN THE ? HE'S REACTING LIKE HE WANTS TO AVOID THE GAS-- BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE AFFECTING HIM!

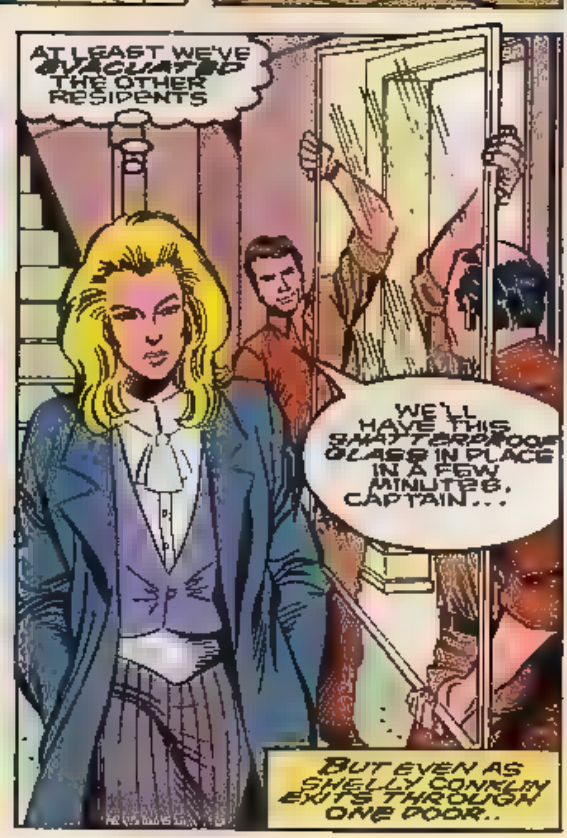

MOTHER HERE
THAT VISUAL OBSERVATION IS CONFIRMED BY THE SCANNER
YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT I THINK LIEUTENANT. ?

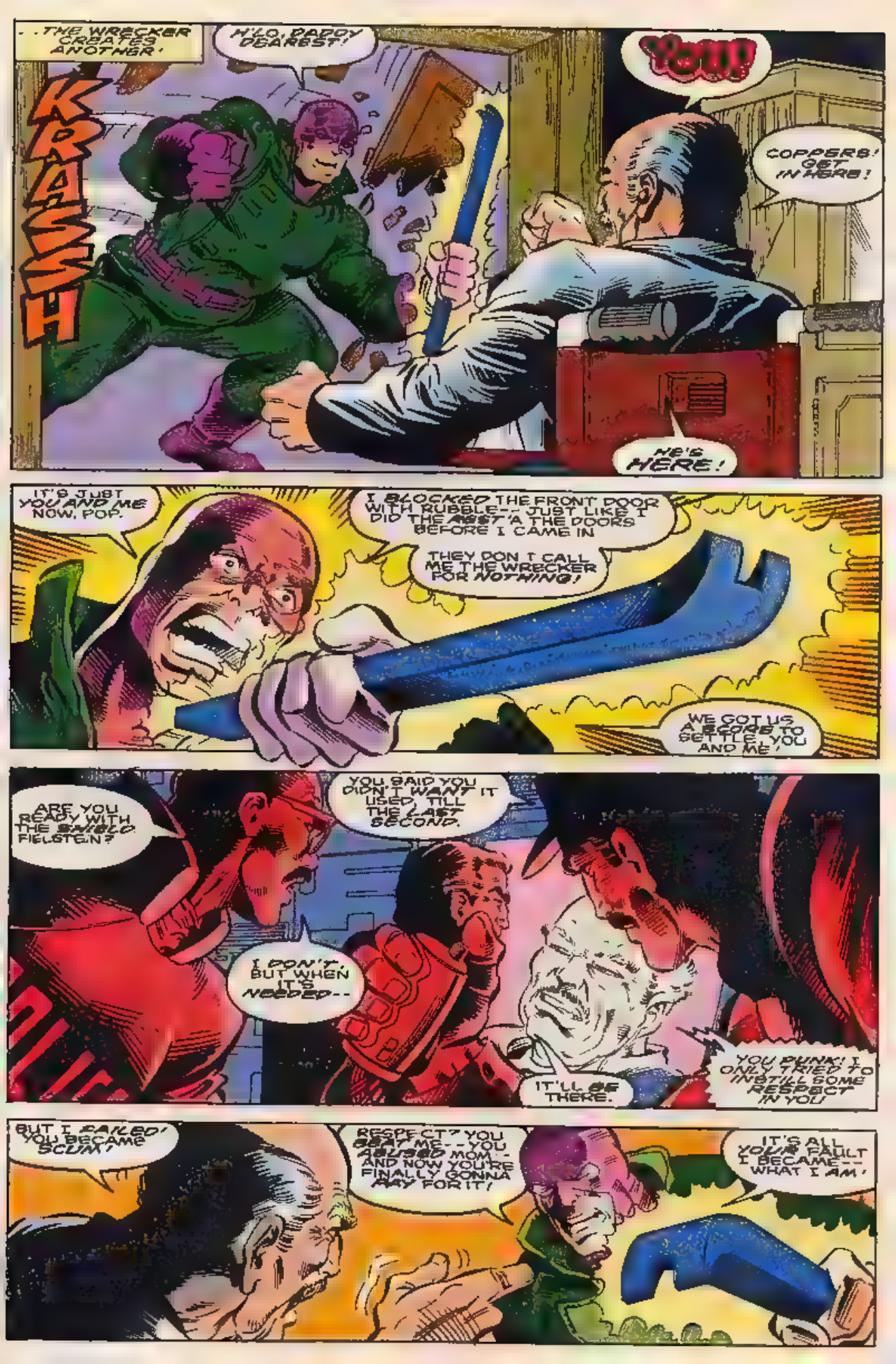

NOW THAT'S DOWNRIGHT INTERESTING, MAJOWSKI
IF YOU'RE RIGHT, IT GOES WITH WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT LOKI AND THE OTHER DIMENSION--AND THE READINGS YOU GOT WHEN HE AND THOR WERE CLOBBERING EACH OTHER.
NOW IT'S ALL UP TO CAPTAIN CONKLIN
EVEN AS WE SPEAK, LT STONE..


"...SHE'S REACHED HER DESTINATION."
SUNNY HILLS RETIREMENT HOME
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS, MR. GARTHWAITE.

YOU ACTUALLY WANT MONEY FOR SEEING YOUR OWN SON--AND TRYING TO SAVE HIS LIFE, AND THOSE OF OTHERS?
I READ THE PAPERS! HE MUST'VE STOLE A MILLION DOLLARS OVER THE YEARS--BUT DID HE EVER DO ANYTHING TO HELP HIS OLD MAN?
MAYBE IF YOU HADN'T BEATEN HIM SO OFTEN WHEN HE WAS YOUNG...


WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT? I JUST DISCIPLINED HIM, THAT'S ALL.
WELL, IF YOU WON'T PAY ME, I CAN ALWAYS SELL THE STORY TO THE TABLOIDS
THEY EVEN REPORTED ME DEAD ONCE.
MY EX-WIFE BELIEVED 'EM, ANYWAY.
* IN SPEC. SPIDER-MAN #126.--MKB


AT LEAST WE'VE EVACUATED THE OTHER RESIDENTS
WE'LL HAVE THIS SHATTERPROOF GLASS IN PLACE IN A FEW MINUTES, CAPTAIN...
BUT EVEN AS SHELLY CONKLIN EXITS THROUGH ONE DOOR..


...THE WRECKER CREATES ANOTHER!
KRASSH
H'LO, DADDY DEAREST!
COPPERS! GET IN HERE!
HE'S HERE!
IT'S JUST YOU AND ME NOW, POP.
I BLOCKED THE FRONT DOOR WITH RUBBLE-- JUST LIKE I DID THE ASST 'A THE DOORS BEFORE I CAME IN
THEY DON'T CALL ME THE WRECKER FOR NOTHING!
WE GOT US A SCORE TO SETTLE, YOU AND ME!
ARE YOU READY WITH THE SAWBLO FIELSTEIN?
YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT IT USED, TILL THE LAST SECOND.
I DON'T, BUT WHEN IT'S NEEDED--
IT'LL BE THERE.
YOU PUNK! I ONLY TRIED TO INSTILL SOME RESPECT IN YOU!
BUT I FAILED! YOU BECAME SCUM!
RESPECT? YOU BEAT ME--YOU ABUSED MOM--AND NOW YOU'RE FINALLY GONNA PAY FOR IT!
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT I BECAME--WHAT I AM!

THAT'S RIGHT -- BLAME ME! BLAME EVERYBODY BUT YOURSELF LIKE ALWAYS!

YOU WERE WEAK! MY DAD BEAT ME LOTS OF TIMES -- BUT I STILL TURNED OUT OKAY -- A GOOD HONEST WORKER -- NOT LIKE YOU!

I SHOULD'VE BEAT YOU MORE -- NOT LESS!

LIKE YOU DID MOM! SHE DIED BECAUSE OF YOU!

SHE ALWAYS THOUGHT SHE WAS BETTER'N ME, JUST 'CAUSE SHE'D BEEN TO SCHOOL.

SHE WAS A TRAMP! I'M NOT EVEN SURE YOU'RE MY SON!

SHE DESERVED WHAT SHE GOT!

I'LL KILL YOU FOR THAT, YOU --!

NOW!

SOME KIND'A BARRIER! BUT I'LL SMASH MY WAY RIGHT THROUGH --

Y-YOU'RE -- TOO LATE -- DIRK! YOU'RE --

URRGGGGKKKK

NO! Y-YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME -- NOT NOW!

YOU CAN'T DIE ON ME!

YOU CHEATED ME ALL MY LIFE!

I'M NOT GONNA LET YOU CHEAT ME AGAIN--BY DYIN'!

KRAKKKK

AIN'T WH-WHAT'S HAPPENIN' TO ME?

I--I FEEL SO--

SOMETHING'S PULLIN' ME--BACK TO THAT OTHER DIMENSION WHERE THAT LOKI GUY SENT ME!*

NO! I AIN'T GONNA LET IT TAKE ME BACK!

I WON'T BE CHEATED AGAIN!

I WON'T...

*SEE THOR #431.--MIKE

LATER...

...DIDN'T TAKE A ROCKET SCIENTIST, CHIEF. ONCE THE SCANNER CONFIRMED THE WRECKER WASN'T FULLY MATERIALIZED FROM-- WELL, WHEREVER.

MAJOWSKI TRACKED THAT. THE MORE THOSE PUNCHED HIM, THE MORE HE FOCUSED ON HIS HOLD ON OUR WORLD.

FRESH Coffee

POLICE

WE NEEDED SOMETHING TO BREAK HIS CONCENTRATION-- AND HIS FATHER TURNED OUT TO BE IT.

DIDN'T FIGURE ON BURT GARTHWAITE DYING, THOUGH.

THAT'S WHAT REALLY MADE HIS SON LOSE HIS GRIP, HUH?

KNOW WHAT I THINK? I THINK THE OLD MAN DIED OUT OF SHEER SPITE.

HIS LAST CHANCE TO BEAT UP ON HIS SON, IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING.

NOT THAT I CAN PROVE IT OR ANYTHING...

YOU MAY BE RIGHT, CAPTAIN.

I EVER TELL YOU I HAD AN ABUSIVE FATHER?

I--DIDN'T KNOW MARCUS.

NO REASON WHY YOU SHOULD'VE.

NOT EVERY CASE TURNS OUT LIKE THE WRECKER.

BEEP BEEP BEEP

CHIEF O'GRADY-- MR. YOUNG OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE IS ON THE PHONE...

YOU'VE MADE MY DAY.

I HEARD THAT O'GRADY. I WANT TO SEE YOU--NOW!

HIS MASTER'S VOICE.

OURS, TOO, UNFORTUNATELY.

--THE THERMAL MAN!

NEXT: IF THOR GUEST-STARS, CAN THUNDERSTRIKE BE FAR BEHIND?